Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Faundation جَهِرِدان تابِينًا يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحابة الاردنية والراي،

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Kabul appeals to Arab leaders

KUWAIT (AP) — Afghan President Najibullah has appealed to the leaders of Saudi Arabin and Kuwalt to mediate a peaceful settlement in his war-torn country, the Al Seyasseh daily reported Saturday. It quoted him

as promising in an interview to release foreign captives if their governments requested it and to facilitate visit by Arah families to men captured fighting requested it and to facilitate visit by Arab families to men captured fighting with Aghan rebels. "Subject to approval of the Sandi monarch King Falsd, we are ready to go to Saudi Arabia and sit at the negotiating table near the

Grand Mosque of Mecca with the opposition groups, with the aim of resolving our differences in accordance with Islamic teachings," Najibullah said. Sandi Arabia is a staunch supporter of the Mujahedeen rebels. The

rebels have fought on seeking to overthrow Najiballah and set up an Islamic state. Sandi Arabia, despite the absence of dipiomatic ties with Moseow, hosted a meeting in December 1988 between Soviet and Mujahedeen representatives. Najibullah said that he made the proposal for

talks a year ago at a meeting of Islamic spiritual leaders in Kabul, "but we did not receive any positive response." Saudi Arabia was the first country to extend recognition to the rebels' provisional government.

Volume 15 Number 4331

M

guage

 $\mathbb{A}P_1 \searrow_{\mathbb{R}}$ 100 gg Pice State

500e 1 5 200 lean Ag

....

0.5

. .

-62

η

AMMAN SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1990, SHA'BAN 7, 1410

Subsidies raised for civil, military societies

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday decided to raise subsidies for civil servants and military personnel by JD 4.5 million for fiscal year 1990. According to the Cabinet decision, custom and tax exemptions for the Military Consumer Society was raised from JD 4.5 million to JD 7 million, while exemptions for the Civil Consumer Society was raised from JD 4.5 to JD 6.5

Rains replenish water reservoirs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The recent rains that fell in Jordan have replenished dams' reservoirs in the Kingdom and provided water to farmlands in the Jordan Valley without having to draw from the reservoirs, according to Mohammad Bani Hani, secretary general of the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA). Bani Hani expressed hope that more rain would fall during March to raise the level of water in the reservoirs used to irrigate farmlands in the dry season. Bani Hani said that water at the King Talal Dam was now estimated at 37.5 million cubic metres, out of a total capacity of 82 million, 13.2 million at the Wadi Al Arab dam, which has a total capacity of 20 million, 2.6 million at the Sharhabil Dam, which has a capacity of 4.5 million cubic metres, Wadi Shueib, 2.5 million and 4.8 million cubic metres at Kafrain Dam.

Woerner backs special NATO talks

BRUSSELS (AP) - North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Secretary-General Manfred Woerner said Saturday he favoured calling a special meeting of foreign ministers of the alliance to discuss German issnes. Some smaller NATO countries have complained about being left out of discussions on the future of the two German states and suggested an emergency conference. "I personally favour the idea," Woerner told reporters at NATO headquarters after meeting with Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier.

Soviets ready to join interpol

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union is ready to join Interpol at its next congress in late 1990, Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin has said. Interpol is the international criminal police organisa-tion, a worldwide clearinghouse for law enforcement officials to trade information on international criminals. It particularly focuses narcotics, smuggling, counterfeiting and forgery.

Body of British woman found in Cyprus

NICOSIA (AP) — A police spokesman said the body of a missing British school teacher was found Saturday near the western port of Paphos, according to the Cyprus News Agency. Celia Toy, 46, lived with her husband, British pensioner Raymond George Fredrik Toy, 62, in the village of Marathunta in the Paphos district since 1983. Toy was detained Friday as part of the police's investigation into the disappearance of Mrs. Toy. She was last seen Monday at the Anglo-American International School where she was headmistress of the elementary section. The police detained Toy after finding traces of blood on the couple's automobile.

1 shot dead in Srinagar

SRINAGAR (AP) — Paramilitary troops shot and killed one man Saturday as small groups of protesters defied curfew orders confining them to their homes for the second straight day after the Kashmir Valley's largest demoustration against Indian rule, witnesses said. Hundreds of paramilitary police and border guards were rushed back to Kashmir after at least 49 people were shot to death Thursday by army and paramilitary troops, police and airport sources said.

King visits Iraq for talks on Arab developments

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday paid a brief working visit to Baghdad for talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on bilateral relations, the outcome of last week's Arab Cooperation Council summit, and the latest developments in the Arab and international

According to Jordan Television, the meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister Sadown Hammadi, Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Jasem, and the Iraqi sador to Jordan.

The Jordanian side to the talks included Royal Court Chief Shar-

Jordanian ambassador to Iraq. King Hussein and President Hussein met in Amman last week at the ACC summit. The regional alliance grouping Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen.

Officials quoted by Renters said the King would fly to Paris on Monday for talks on Middle East peace efforts and Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel, which has alarmed Jordan and the Arab World.

They said he would travel on to London for similar discussions with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Up to 100,000 Soviet Jews are expected in Israel this year. Several hundred have settled in



His Majesty King Hussein with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad Saturday (Petra

the Israeli-occapied West Bank. last week, King Hussein toured Following the ACC summit, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates to brief on the dangers inherent in the their leaders on the summit and Soviet Jewish influx to Palestine.

IMF to review progress of Jordan's adjustments

By Ghadeer Taher Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN - An International Monetary Fund (IMF) delegation arrived here Saturday for follow-up talks on the progress of Jordan's economic structural adjustment programme agreed with the fund in April last year and the release of the remaining part of a standby IMF credit approved in July as part of the agree-

Abdul Shakour Shaalan, head of the IMF's Middle East Department, is scheduled to have three days of talks with Jordanian officials to conduct the review, which was delayed partly due to the November general elections and the parliamentary debate on the 1990 draft budget in January, according to Minister of Finance Basel

he did not expect any problems to surface during the talks, which, he said, will pave the way for the release of the remaining \$44 million in standby credit approved last July.

The central focus of talks between Jordanian officials and Shaalan, who arrived from Paris, is expected to be the 1990 national budget, which incorporates measures designed to meet the IMF's requirements of gradual reduction of the deficits in the budget as well as balance of payments.

Although Jardaneh did not expect problems to arise during this week's talks, banking sources said the IMF might seek some cuts in subsidies and military spending and a detailed explanation of projected revenues in the budget, which was approved by the Lower House of Parliament in

One diplomat quoted by Reuters said: "I don't think the IMF will be ecstatic about the budget. There are cuts but it is not the bare-bones budget the IMF had in mind. It is too early for the IMF to be too difficult, but they will hit subsidies and

Economists noted that Jordan had brought down the budget deficit to 16 per cent of the gross domestic product from about 24 per cent in 1988 and 20 per cent in 1989 in line with an IMF

Jordan, which has already reached agreements to reschedule its 1989 and 1990 repayments of its total foreign debts of \$8.3 billion to the Paris Club of creditor governments and the London Chub of commercial institutions, has already covered \$150

million in arrears due in 1989. Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi said recently that months of 1990 and that he expected the Kingdom to pay \$700 million in debt servicing this year.

Nabulsi said an expected increase to \$850 million from \$600 million in 1989 in expatriate remittances and a 12 per cent increase in exports in addition to financial aid from Arab states were enough to cover the Kingdom's external financial commitments for 1990.

The budget, which projects a deficit of JD 199.1 million before financing, includes JD 87.46 million in principal and interest payments in 1990. Jordan has to sign bilateral agreements with four

Paris Club members in line with the broader agreement reached with the group. It was also reported that the Kingdom was having some differences over interest rates with Britain, a major creditor.

Shamir said to accept U.S. plan

Sunday.

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel Television said Saturday that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir would accept a U.S. formula for convening the first-ever Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Shamir met with cabinet ministers of his right-wing Likud bloc at his home Saturday to win backing for the plan proposed by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, the report said.

The television report was broadcast during the meeting. It said the formula to be voted

on by the policy-making inner cabinet next week would only require Israel to state its willingnians registered as residents of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The formula clears the way for

Israel to accept talks in Cairo without having to confront the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) demand that Palestinians who live in Arab Jerusalem be included in the talks. After the receiving Israel's

positive response, Baker will summon his Israeli and Egyptian counterparts to discuss which Palestinians will take part, Israel Television said

It added that Shamir demanded in return for his acceptance Shamir, Peres, Likud Foreign

Minister Moshe Arens and

of peace talks with Labour Vice-Premier Shimon Peres stop trying to form a coalition government without Likud.

saying Washington would not

give aid to resettle Soviet Jewish immigrants unless Israel promised to halt Jewish settlement of the occupied areas. The State Department backtracked on Friday, saying aid would be forthcoming if Israel

Labour Defence Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin were due to meet

key issue delaying talks on Sha-

in occupied territories.

mir's proposal for Arab elections

The television said Shamir and

his top three ministers, including

Labour leaders, would assure the

United States privately that

Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories and those

who had an apartment or office in Arab Jerusalem could join the

talks, so long as they were reg-

In Washington, the State De-

ment on the television report.

istered in the territories.

Arab Jerusalem has been one

provided assurances similar to those given for annual U.S. aid, such as promising not to use the funds in the occupied areas.

Diplomatic and official sources in Washington had said the State

Shamir called Baker's remarks "inflammatory."

Deputies air diverse views on Soviet influx

By Salameh Ne'matt Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament, in a closed session Saturday, heard a report on the respective stands of all parties concerned with the issue of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied territories, and political blocs in the House presented several views on how to deal with the problem.

Parliamentary sources told the Jordan Times that Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem outlined the respective stands of the Arab states, the U.S., the Soviet Union, European states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) vis-a-vis the influx of Soviet Jews into the occupied territories.

Addressing the closed session. the second in one week, Qasem underlined the European position which he said was "more advanced" on the issue than most states concerned, according to

the sources. Discussing Saturday's House told the Jordan News Agency,

Petra, that Qasem reviewed the current political situation and

Jordan's policy towards current issues, and the deputies expressed views and made enquiries about the dangers threatening Jordan and the region.

Prime Minister Badran, Arar said, later answered deputies' questions. The prime minister reviewed the political situation in the region as well as the Arab and international position toward the current issues," Arar told

According to sources who spoke to the Jordan Times, the foreign minister sparked a debate during the seven-our session, when he reported that a Soviet radio station, beaming to Israel, expressed the opinion that Arab states were "unnecessarily exaggerating the problem. Even if it (the immigration) resulted in the settlement of Jews in the occupied territories."

Communist Deputy Issa Mdanat, responding to the commentary, was quoted as saving that although he did not doubt Qasem's report, "I would have liked to see the foreign minister session. Speaker Suleiman Arar ask our ambassador in Moscow about the reality of the Soviet

(Continued on page 3)

Church threat brings uneasy Beirut truce

mate church threat of excommunication has brought at least a temporary halt to a bloody war between Lebanon's Christians in which about 800 people have died in the past month.

Exhausted-civilians emerged from dank shelters Saturday to survey the ruins of homes blasted by a power struggle between General Michel Aoun's troops and the Lebanese Forces

Shamir's reported acceptance The battle for control of the of the U.S. formula came two Christian enclave erupted on days after Baker enraged him by January 31 when Aoun demanded that the LF disarm and disband. Geagea has vowed to fight

to the death to maintain his militia. Patriarch Nasrallah Butros Sfeir, head of the Maronite Church to which Aoun, Geagea and most of their followers be-

long, threatened Friday to excommunicate the Christian leaders and their troops unless the war ended. They will be expelled from the church body and prevented

buriai according to church rites." said Sfeir, invoking the supreme sanction of the church in his 13th olea for peace. However, convoys of civilians

BEIRUT (Agencies) - The ulti- Saturday as sniper fire crackled around them despite a ceasefire in the power struggle that has driven one-fifth of the zone's one million inhabitants from their

Police said civil defence teams

evacuated 12 dead and 26 wounded from the battered districts of Nabaa and Sin A Fil during the night after savage fighting subsided into sniper duels. That raised the overall casualty

toll since the battles began to a least 766 killed and 2.087 wounded. Police said relative calm pre-

vailed over east Beirut since 9 p.m. (1900 GMT) Friday when the ceasefire called by Sfeir took effect.

Long lines of cars and pickups piled high with mattresses, clothes, and household goods snaked out of east Beirut for the relative safety of the north, the eastern Bekaa Valley and the southern provinces.

Political sources said the latest battles dealt Aoun a heavy blow and gained little ground.

"I believe Aoun is finished, militarily and perhaps even politically," one diplomat told Reuters. "They have to find a way out for him. Of course, he may decide to fight on but the army is in fled the enclave north of Beirut bad shape and sick of it."

Israeli Arabs protest Soviet Jewish influx

TEL AVIV (AP) — Thousands of Israeli Arabs have signed a petition calling on the Soviet Unon to stop Jewish immigration to Israel for fear that the new arrivals will take away Arab jobs, organisers of the campaign said Saturday.

The petition drive is a sign of the growing alienation of Israel's 800,000 Arab citizens and their increasing identification with wider Arab causes, such as the protest against Soviet Jewish immigration and the 26-month Palestinian uprising.

Yossi Olmert, head of the government press office, called the petition drive a grave development that "undermines the very foundations of the state." The petition calls on Soviet

leader Mikhail Gorbachev to stop the exodus of Soviet Jews. The immigration surge began last year when 12,000 Soviet Jews came to Israel. Israeli leaders have said they expect up to 750,000 this decade, and one government offi-cial said last week he expected as many as 230,000 to arrive this

"The Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union is at the expense of the Palestinian people. This immigration will escalate the racial discrimination that Arabs suffer," said the petition written by Arab nationalist activists calling themselves "the Sons of the Vil-

lage."
On Saturday, about 1,000 people signed the petition in the northern town of Nazareth. bringing the total in the past two days to more than 4,000 signatures, said organiser Mohammad another two weeks, and that the petition would then be sent to Gorbachev.

"The Israeli Arabs are really worried," said Atallah Mansour, another Israeli Arab journalist. "The Israeli government policy for the past 40 years has been not to treat the Arab population on egalitarian terms, and now the Arabs again have someone coming before them in the queue."
The main concern is that that

Soviet Jewish immigrants will take away jobs from Arabs who face an imemployment rate of more than 15 per cent, compared to about 10 per cent among Israeli Jews.

"For the unemployed and the young university graduates, this is a terrifying nightmare," Mansour said.

Israeli Arabs frequently complain about being treated as second-class citizens. For example, they are barred from serving in the army, and are thus not eligible for the many benefits given to veterans, including cheap housing loans.

U.N. files complaint

In the occupied Gaza Strip, meanwhile, U.N. relief officials filed a complaint with the Israeli army after troops barged into U.N. clinics five times in the past month and demanded to be given names of Palestinians wounded in

clashes with troops.
"These are U.N. installations and soldiers are not allowed to enter," said Claire Grimes.

spokeswoman of Gaza's U.N. said the drive would continue for Relief and Works Agency which

aids Palestinian refugees.

An army official said the protest has been received but declined further comment. Also Saturday, 33-year-old Sadi Abdel Fatah from Gaza's

Bureij refugee camp died at near-by Ahli Arab hospital after being stabbed and shot in the head by masked assailants who suspected him of being an informer, an Arab reporter said.

The death brought to 191 the number of Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs during the uprising, most on suspicion of aiding Israel. Another 659 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers and civilians. Forty-three Israelis also died in the violence.

In fresh clashes in Gaza City. troops wounded four Palestinians, including an 18-year-old who was in critical condition with a bullet in the abdomen, Ahli Arab hospital officials said.

Soviet position

Soviet Ambassador Felix Fedotov to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Saturday urged the Arabs to cooperate with Moscow to contain a feared flood of Soviet Jewish emigrants into the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He said the Israelis were ex-

aggerating reports about the number of Soviet Jews expected to go to Israel, following Moscow's relaxation of emigration regulations, in an apparent effort

(Continued on page 3)

Department explanation might have come too late to rescue Baker's efforts to arrange the Cairo talks.

Serving Romanian ministers 'involved in killings' TIMISOARA, Romania (AP)-The chief defendant at the trial of 21 officers of deposed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's dreaded Securitate secret police testified Saturday that the current defence and interior ministers were sent to Timisoara to help suppress

December's popular revolt.

Major-General Emil Macri, a Securitate department head, told the court that units under his command did not participate in putting down the revolution that ended Ceausescu's 24-year ironfisted rule. The revolt began in this west-

ern city Dec. 16. The violent suppression of demonstrations sparked nationwide reaction, and eventually spread to the capital

Bucharest, 400 kilometres to the Dec. 17, by (former Securitate east, toppling Ceausescu Dec. 22. He and his wife Elena were summarily tried and executed three days later on charges including genocide against as many as 60,000 people during their

Macri repeatedly denied he had any role in ordering the security forces to fire upon demonstrators claiming that the Securitate was not even issued arms in the first days of the uprising.

harsh rule.

On Friday, the chief persecutor revealed that 94 people died and 300 were injured in the revolutionary violence here. Another 20 went missing. "I was sent to Timisoara on

chief) Gen. Iulian Vlad, exclusively to find out whether there were any foreign spies inciting the people to rise up against the regime," Macri told the court. adding that he was accompanied in his mission by 15 counter-intelligence officers from

Bucharest. Ceausescu had condemned the Timisoara protests as a "cam-

paign" from abroad. Macri and six others are accused of "committing genocide" and face life imprisonment if con-

The 14 other defendants could convicted on lesser charges of "assisting genocide" for trying to tried later in Bucharest.

organise resistance to the revolt, facilitate the escape of two generals and conceal 40 of the 94 deaths by sending bodies to Bucharest for cremation.

Macri was the first to give testimony. The other 20 defendants were ordered to leave the courtroom by presiding judge, Colonel Cornel Badoru.

Macri told the court that Col. Gen. Victor Stanculescu, who was appointed defence minister just last month, was sent to Timisoara Dec. 17, to assist Ion Coman, a former politburo member responsible for the army and go to jail for up to 20 years if police, who was sent to the city to quash the revolt. Coman is to be

PAC rules out talks with Pretoria

HARARE (Agencies) — The radical Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) of South Africa Saturday ruled out peace negotiations with Pretoria and vowed to step up the armed struggle to achieve black majority rule.

PAC Foreign Affairs Secretary Gora Ebrahim told a news conference that the group had agreed at a meeting in Zimbabwe with the Pan Africanist Movement (PAM), a loose alliance of internal political groups opposed to apartheid, that Pretoria had not yet met conditions for negotia-

"The PAC and PAM have agreed that as of now there is no basis for negotiations. The state of emergency is still in force, the

regime's troops are still in the black townships and the regime still detains political prisoners," he said.

President F.W. de Klerk last month lifted a long-standing ban on the PAC along with Nelson Mandela's larger African National Congress (ANC) and the South African Communist Party.

Mandela plans to meet de Klerk soon for talks and the ANC is to move its headquarters back to South Africa.

But Ebrahim said the PAC would step up armed struggle to force Pretoria to the negotiating table and accused de Klerk of trying to "liquidate the liberation movements and to undermine international sanctions by introduc-

ing half reforms. "We were not fighting in order to be legalised. The PAC was formed to contest power in the country," Ebrahim said.

Mandela compared to Christ

In Lusaka, Mandela heard himself compared to Jesus Christ Saturday when he visited the Zambian capital's civic centre to be honoured by his hosts.

"Like it was with Jesus when he was crucified, his persecutors believed they were putting an end to his fame. Alas they did not realise that his name was to become famous worldwide. You have done exactly that, not for yourself but your country and

mankind," District Governor Rupiah Banda told him.

Mandela, thanking his hosts for a silver key and scroll, replied: You are granting me the freedom of the city. Yet in my own city of Johannesburg I do not have a vote in the city council

elections. "It is shameful that in this day and age blacks do not even have a vote in local government elec-

Mandela told the crowd, including Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda, that even when his ANC returned home to a new headquarters in Johannesburg, "part of us will always remain

Donors divert food aid to rebel areas of Ethiopia through Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Western donors are now diverting Ethiopia's food aid shipments to neighbouring Sudan for distribution on the side of Ethiopian rebels, diplomats and relief workers said.

This started when Ethiopian rebels seized the strategic northem port of Massawa last month, paralysing famine relief operations in government-held areas.

The diplomats said the United States, which originally pledged to donate 50,000 tonnes of food aid for distribution in rebel-held areas, was now likely to double this commitment.

An officially estimated 4.5 million people face starvation in northern Ethiopia this year because of drought and civil war. Most of the victims are in Eritrea and the adjacent Tigray pro-

But the fall of Massawa, confirmed by foreign relief workers who have visited the port with Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) rebels, has closed the last gateway for shipping food aid directly to government-held

It has also disrupted a plan for church relief agencies to truck food aid from Massawa across the military lines to Tigray.

Donors originally planned to ship 370,000 tonnes of grain to Massawa for distribution in both Eritrea and Tigray but the diplo-

mats said many shipments were now being quietly diverted to Port Sudan for delivery to relief agencies operating on the rebel side of the lines.

Last week, for instance, one ship carrying 27,000 tonnes of U.S. grain to Massawa was rerouted to Port Sudan, they said.

The diplomats and relief workers said Western governments preferred to avoid dealing directly with the rebels by channelling their aid through independent charities such as the Lutheran World Relief.

From Port Sudan the food aid begins a slow and difficult journey by truck to distribution centres. The trucks travel by night to avoid air attack along rough tracks through mountains and take a week or more to complete the round trip.

Ethiopia's Soviet-backed government has protested that such cross-border operations violated

its sovereignty.
But many relief officials see them as vital for saving hundreds of thousands of people in rebel-held areas who would otherwise starve to death or make their way to refugee camps in Sudan.

Up to one million people starved to death in northern Ethiopia during the 1984-85 because the international community failed to provide food aid in

Then and during the drought of 1987-88 most of the needy could

be reached from government- ence to any change in the WPE's held towns.

But over the last two years the rebels have greatly extended the territory under their control, putting hundreds of thousands if not millions of people beyond the reach of relief organisations operating on the government side.

The EPLF holds all of northern and western Eritrea as well as Massawa and its ally, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), controls all of Tigray and large areas of neighbouring Wollo and Gondar provinces.

Relief agencies linked to the EPLF and TPLF are buying new trucks and hiring others to carry the increased flow of food aid into their areas.

Ethiopia announces changes

Meanwhile, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's Marxist rulers said Saturday they had charted a new strategy for the country's future

progress and development.

Diplomats and Ethiopian exiles in other East African countries contacted by Reuters in Nairobi have speculated for weeks that the ruling Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE) was about to dump its philosophy as part of its search for a solution to the country's civil war and economic

The official Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) made no refer-

commitment to socialism. But it said the party's politburo, chaired President Mengistu Haile by President Mengistu rame Mariam, had recommended sweeping changes in the party's policies at a meeting Friday.

"An appropriate strategy has been charted out during the dis-cussions of the political bureau based on the objective conditions in the country and taking into account the prevailing situation in the world," ENA said. The politburo deliberated on

"the nature and mission of the party, the economic system and generally on the country's fu-

The agency gave no details of the recommendations but said they would be put to a Central Committee meeting soon. of self-determination.

This is the first time the WPE has announced a rethink of its ideology since it was founded in

Mengistu has anchored his country ideologically and politi-cally to the Soviet Union since coming to power in 1977. However, the government has quietly introduced a number of economic reforms in the past two years to ease state controls on the economy and promote private enter-

The reassessment of ideology comes as the government faces fresh military setbacks in its war against rebels in the north and a new threat of famine.

China denies arms deal talks with

BAGHDAD (R) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, ending a three-day visit to Iraq. the region," he said. said Saturday that reports of recent arms deals between his country and Iran were "completely baseless."

Asked by reporters to comment on the reports, he said talks between China and Iran had not touched on the subject and were centred on scientific and technological cooperation only. The arms trade must be li-

mited within the sale of weapons

for self-defence... and must help to achieve stability and peace in

Peking supplied Iran with Silkworm missiles and other weapons during its 1980-88 war with Iraq. Qian met Iragi President Sad-

dam Hussein, Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz and Deputy Prime Minister Saadoun Hammadi for discussions on improving economic relations. Both sides had expressed a

strong desire to continue rela-tions of friendship and coopera-

tion, despite the presence of some difficulties in the exchange of economic and trade relations,

He did not elaborate but said a

joint committee meeting in April

would tackle the problems Chinese firms last year signed contracts with Iraq worth more than \$50 million, mainly for rail-

ways and roads. Qian said his talks also covered the exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel, which has alarmed the

"We are against Israeli measures to settle Soviet Jews in the occupied territories, because that will be a blow for the Middle East peace efforts and the whole peace process," he said.

Israel says there is no policy of settling the migrants in the terri-

Qian later arrived in North Yemen on the second leg of his tour which will also take him to South Yemen, Qatar and

Sana'a, Aden to merge central banks, media

ADEN (R) - North and South Yemen will merge their central banks, media and other institutions in the first practical step towards unity due to be achieved in November.

The Aden News Agency said Saturday the agreement was reached in two days of talks in the border town of Ta'izz between Prime Ministers Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani of the North and Yassen Said No'man of the

It quoted a joint statement as saying they agreed "to merge similar institutions in both Yemens as part of the transitional phase before announcing the

single Yemen on Nov. 30 The statement gave no date for merging central banks, ports, cus-

But it said flights by Yemen Airways of the North and Alyemenia of the South to Aden and Sanaa would be regarded as domestic as of March.

Non-Yemeni nationals were free to travel in both countries on visas issued by either state, it Official from South Yemen and

North Yemen have been meeting to pave the way for unity since last November. Officials told Reuters the latest

mergers were the first steps towards uniting the foreign affairs. defence and trade ministries. Finance ministers will work out

financial, economic and com- until all our demands, foremost mercial role in the united

said they were seeking foreign Under the draft constitution. Sanaa was declared the capital of a united Yemen.

The statement said both countries agreed to coordinate their foreign trade by unifying sources of imports and benefitting from previous pacts signed by either country.

Meanwhile, leaders of 600 South Yemeni doctors and pharmacists, on strike since Monday for better pay and medical equipment, said Saturday they minister was sacked.

among which is the sacking of the minister, are met," union leader South Yemeni officials have Abdo Salem told Reuters. The stoppage is the latest in a

investment to revive the port. series which have gripped the state in the past two months. Union leaders accuse Health Minister Said Sharaf of appointing friends and relatives to top ministry positions and being to

blame for deteriorating health services. "We can no longer accept the present health conditions which have deteriorated to such a level that is forcing our (skilled) medic-

al staff to leave the country." they said in a statement. They are expected to meet South Yemeni President Haider Abu Bakr Al-Attas Monday, offi-

a united budget for 1991, the would not go back till the health statement said. It said the Red Sea port of toms, posts and communications Aden would continue to play its "We will not end the strike Paper suggests

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian newspaper suggested Saturday that if Western hostages in Lebanon were freed, Iran and the United States could improve relations with another prisoner release deal.

Kayhan International said that if Tehran and Washington wanted improved ties "in the post-hostage era" they could negotiate the release of two Americans jailed in Iran in exchange for three black Muslims jailed in the United States. "If we are correct in assuming

that Washington and Tehran are talking about ending one phase of the Lebanon debacle, then we suggest if those negotiations are successfully completed, someone pay attention to releasing the Americans mentioned herein, in the U.S. and Iran," the Iranian News Agency (IRNA) quoted the hardline English-language paper

"Perhaps this is a sufficient pre-text for the Reverend Jesse Jackson to visit Tehran, or maybe even (former U.S. Attorney General) Ramsey Clark. Both would be better," the paper said.

as saying.

It identified the Americans jailed in Iran as David Rabhan, a friend of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter who has been in prison for 10 years, and "selfconfessed CIA operative" John

It named the three black American Muslims, who it said were the victims of Racism, as Dhoruba Al Mujahid, Geronimo Pratt and Khalifa Hamaas Abdul Khalis.

Kayhan said American Muslims were of concern to Iran because the Islamic Republic says it is mandated to protect Muslims and the oppressed wherever they

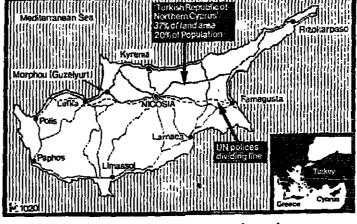
A senior Muslim militia official in Beirut told Reuters Wednesday that the United States and Iran had had secret talks on releasing eight U.S. hostages.

U.S. President George Bush denied Thursday that Washington was conducting secret talks with Tehran, which backs the Hizbollah group believed to be holding most of the 17 Western

In the last few weeks Iran's top judge, the pro-government Tehran Times newspaper and an influential pro-Iranian Muslim cleric in Lebanon have all denounced hostage-taking.

IRNA quoted Kayhan as saying Rabhan was jailed because of Carter's "indiscretion" in making direct telephone call to his "boyhood friend" during the U.S. embassy hostage crisis in the last 15 months of Carter's presidency.

It said Rabhan "was an agroindustrialist who had invested some \$16 million in Iran before the revolution. He stayed on (in Iran) and it is said he had even converted to Islam.



Cyprus talks break down over self-determination

UNITED NATIONS (R) -Week-long talks between Cypriot President George Vassiliou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash on reuniting their divided island broke down over the issue

The talks did not produce anything. As a matter of fact, there have been no talks, there have been no negotiations," Vassiliou told a news conference after a final meeting with Denktash and United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Friday.

"There has been simply a number of meetings, which could not lead to anything because of the preconditions imposed by the other side."

Vassiliou said the main stumbling block was Denktash's insistence for the first time that the Turkish Cypriots be considered a people, with the right of self-determination, instead of a community, as designated by the U.N. Security Council under whose mandate the secretary general was acting.

Denktash's aim, he said, was not to form a federation, but to achieve recognition for the Turkish Cypriot state proclaimed in 1983 with himself as president.

The state, recognised only by Turkey, comprises the 37 per cent of the island occupied by Turkish troops since 1974 when the military junta then ruling Greece engineered a short-lived coup in Nicosia. Denktash told reporters as he

left U.N. headquarters that the Greek Cypriot side rejected "the claim for equal rights, the right to decide our future."
"You cannot talk federation if

there is no right to self-determination," he said. The Greek Cypriot side "still

prefers to sail under the flag of the Republic of Cyprus, when they know they don't represent the Security Council

Vassiliou said neither the Turkish Cypriots nor the Greek Cypriots had the right of self-deter-mination, only the Cypriot peo-

ple as a whole. If communities had that right, "the world as we know it would collapse" and the United Nations would not have some 160 members "but probably 16, 000 or 160,000... we would go back to the middle ages."

He quoted from a statement which the secretary general read to both leaders saying the introduction by Denktash of "terminology that is different from that used by the Security Council has... posed more than a seman-

"In the circumstances, I have come to the conclusion, regrettably, that we face an impasse of a substantive kind, which raises questions regarding the essence of the mandate of good offices given to me by the Security Council and, therefore, regarding the basis of the talks."

Because of the dispute over

self-determination, sources close to the talks said, the two leaders failed to follow a work programme proposed by the secretry general aimed at drafting the outline of an agreement on the basis of the results of previous of talks dating back to August 1988. Vassiliou said although he was

disappointed, he was not giving up and would continue efforts to achieve agreement on a federa-tion. He also said he was sending message of friendship to the Turkish Cypriots.

Denktash also appeared to

leave the door open, saying: "We now go back to Cyprus... we'll see whether we shall start again.

The next step will be for the secretry general to report back to

Rafsanjani urges increased production in face of protests

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani's office Saturday set up a 24-hour hotline to handle complaints about economic hardships which have resulted in protest demonstrations.

Tehran Radio gave two numbers where callers could voice complaints or give suggestions. Sources in Tehran reported a number of angry protests last week sparked by popular resentment over continued economic

hardships faced by Iranians. Rafsanjani Saturday admitted "we currently do not have political, cultural or military difficulties. Our difficulties are mostly from a shortage of production," the radio reported.

Rafsanjani said "what will save

the country is that consumer goods are produced inside the country, and are offered to the people at a reasonable price." He said in January that factories were operating at 40 per cent of capacity.

Iranians are contending with soaring inflation, shortages of almost all basic commodities, and high unemployment — all spillovers of the 8-year war with Iraq which devastated the country's economic infrastructure.

There has been no mention of protest demonstrations on the mic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia.

Opposition groups, including the Iraq-based Mujahedeen Khalq, have reported large pro-tests in all major cities. The Mujahedeen Khalq said security forces killed several hundred pro-

The reports could not be independently confirmed. But Tehran residents have

given credible reports by phone that sporadic protests did take place. They declined to give de-Since his election in July, Raf-

sanjani has tried to boost the private sector in an effort to tap potential investments, and encourage foreign investment to revitalise the economy. But his efforts have been frustrated by radicals inside the Tehran hierarchy who advocate a totally nationalised industry and oppose foreign investment.

For weeks the radical-dominated parliament blocked Rafsanjani's five-year plan to revive the economy through foreign invest-ment and privatisation of inefficient industries. They reluctantly approved it last month after a severe warning from the spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

ADC urges dismissal of Baker aide over watered down report on Israel

tion Committee (ADC) President well-researched, classified re-Abdeen Jabara sent letters to ports, by Jerusalem Consult President George Bush and General Phillip Wilcox is clear Secretary of State James Baker evidence of his unsuitability to renewing his request that Assistant Secretary of State for Humanitarian Affairs Richard Schifter leaders while ignoring their counbe relieved of his duties in the terparts in the Arab-American wake of reports that the latter watered down criticism of Israeli human rights abuses in the 1990 State Department Report on Human Rights and that he briefed Jewish American leaders about the report while denying their Arab-American counterparts equal access.

Charging Schifter, the founding president of the pro-Israel Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), with an unconscionable abuse of office and a serious conflict of interest. Jabara requested that Bush and Baker dismiss Schifter on grounds of violation of public

"At a time when there is incredible daily suffering by the Palestinian civilian population, it is simply unacceptable that a U.S. government official place the interests of Israel above those of honesty and objectivity," Jabara

Referring to information contained in a Washington Post column by Jack Anderson (Human Rights Report Irks Israel Again), Jabara stated that "Mr. Schifter's State Department's report."

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — willingness to 'diffuse criticism of American-Arab Anti-Discrmina- Israel' by ignoring 'dozens of public office. The fact that he secretly briefed Jewish American community adds insult to injury. The assistant secretary's part association with JINSA simply provides the context for an intolerable pattern of bias and

abuse of authority." Jabara also sent a letter of protest to every member of both Houses of Congress calling for an urgent inquiry into Schifter's conduct with respect to the Israeli selection of the State Department report. He also urged support for public hearings on Israeli human rights practices in the occupied territories.

Calling this year's report on Israeli abuses "an apparent" travesty. Jabara noted that ADC had cooperated fully with the State Department in the preparation of the 1988 report but had been denied equal access to the findings of this year's report. Asserting the Arab-Americans have suffered increased human and civil rights abuses in the occupied territories during the past two years. Jabara argued that "it logically follows that we have a priority interest in the

15 injured in attack by militants in Egyptian town ASSIUT, Egypt (AP) - Scores san Ibrahim. Al Minva's provin-

of fundamentalist Muslim militants stoned two Coptic Christian churches and a youth club in a southern Egyptian town, injuring 15 people, a town official said Saturday. The state-rup Middle East

news agency distributed a report making no mention of those attacks but saying the militants burned a Coptic-owned candy plant, a neighbouring timber depot and four cars. The town official said the

attacks occurred at Abu-Kurkas,

240 kilometres south of Cairo in Al Minya province. Al Minya lies just north of Assiut, which has experienced frequent episodes of riolence from Muslim militants for almost a decade. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said almost 100 militants threw stones

in the attacks on churches and a nearby Coptic youth club. smashing windows and slightly injuring 15 worshippers. He said the assaults came during Coptic prayer services custo-marily held during a 55-day period of fasting preceding Cop-tic Easter, which this year coin-

cides with Western Easter on

April 15. The official said police de-tained 45 attackers and were looking for another 45. Police Maj.-Gen. Maher Hascial security chief, referred questions to the Interior Ministry in Cairo, which is responsible for internal security. The ministry spokesman's office also refused to discuss the incident but said ¿. statement might be issued later.

The government news agency report, which appeared to be an Interior Ministry handout. blamed the trouble on "members of extremist groups," the ministry's standard euphamism for Muslim militants. It put the number of detainees at 37.

The agency said militants as week abducted the son of the candy plant owner "on suspicion oi daving a love attair with Muslim girl." It said a friend of the son also was kidnapped with

The agency identified the factory owner as Saad Habib Sideir but did not give the son's name." Quoting Interior Ministry sources, it said Friday's arson attack followed the arrest of the alleged kidnappers and release of the two captives.

In Cairo, the state-owned newspaper Al Gombouria reported the attackers tried unsuccessfully to set fire to the chur-Security authorities brought the situation under controi," the newspaper said without specifying how.

Arafat to visit Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR (R) ---Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will start a three-day official visit to Malaysia Monday, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad told reporters Saturday. "We will receive him as the

Palestine president," Mahathir The visit to Malaysia is Arafat's first in his capacity as president of

the Palestiman state. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) met Mahathir unofficially in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, this week at a gathering to hon-our freed South African black

. Paris, Rome (RJ)

16:45 17:20

leader Neison Mandela.

Mahathir said he would hold talks with Arafat on Palestinian problems. In a separate statement, the Foreign Ministry said Arafat's visit would strengthen bilateral ties.

Arafat is expected to brief Mahathir on the latest develop ments in the Middle East, particularly the issue of Israeli-occupied territories, the official Bernama news agency quoted the statement as saying.

Malaysia was one of the first countries to recognise Palestine as a state. In January, 1989, it elevated the status of the PLO office in Kuala Lumpur to

. Kuwait (KU) Kuwait (LN) . Athens (OA)

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19 PROGRAMME ONE

	15:48	Programme review
į	15:45	Children programme
ı		Football Football
		News summary in Arabic
l		Local programme
	40.00	ixocm programma
	15:28	Cultural programme
	19:69	Local programme
		Programme review
		Arabic series
	Z1.30	Programme review
	21:40	Local programme
		Varieties programme
		News summary in Arabic
	PROG	RAMME TWO

Varieties programme News in Arabic Who's the Boss? Women in Politics: "Corazon 20:30 21:10 22:20 Best Seller: "The Bourne

PRAYER TIMES

..... Fair

. Tel Pere Tel Fils

. News in French

News in Hebrew

..... L'ecole de fans

..... Dhuhr 17-38 CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifleh

Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785, St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590 Church of the Annunciation Tel De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Anagusciation Tel. Anglican Church Tel. 625383. Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tcl.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 811295. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932. WEATHER

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.

St. Ephratus Church Tel. 771751. American International Church Tel.

Bulletia supplied by the Department of

It will be warm and winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Agains winds will be northerly moderate an sens calm.
Min_/max_ temp Amman 6/1 Aqabe 12/2
Oeserts 4/19 Jordan Valley 11/2
Yesterday's high temperatures: Am man 17, Aqaba 26. Humidity readings Amman 45 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.
IICEBR TELEBRIONE

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MIGHT DUTY

MIGHT DOLL	
AMMAN: Dr. Adnan Al Zaghloul Dr. Mohammad Al Awed Dr. Abbus Al Hakimi Dr. Hussein Haddad	741391 891256 731267
Fitas obannacy	661912
Ferdows pharmacy	778336
Al Ascina praimacy,	ಚಿತ್ರಗಾ
Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Ai Salain Dharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Yacoub pharmacy Shmeisani pharmacy	637660

Dr. Ziad Al Bakri Dr. Akram Haddad

EMERGENCIES Civil Defence Department . Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Kascue Police 192, 621111, 6377	r
Fire Brigade 8912	2
Blood Bank 7751	ľ
Highway Police 8434	ú
Traffic Police	þ
Public Security Department 6303	ï
Hotel Complaints 6058	ï
Price Complaints	
Water and Sowerage	
Complaints	u
Amman Municipality	
Complaints 7871	1
Telephone Information	•
(directory assistance)	2
(directory assistance)	r
Central Amman Telephone	
Repairs	í

. 774111 Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Electric Power 636381 Queen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200 HOSPITALS

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibn Al Nafees Hospital.... (02)247100 AQARA: Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oveen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
Doba, Bahrain (RJ)
Doba, Bahrain (RJ)
Jeddah, Aqaba (RJ)
Cairo (RJ)

Paris (R.)
Brussels, Frankfort (RJ)

. London (R.)

Madrid, Geneva (RJ)

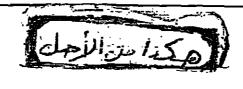
17:20

17:55 18:00

Other Flights (Terminal 2) Dubai (AZ) ... Cairo (MS) Kuwait (KU) 18:85 Tripoli (LN) ... Athens (OA) Frankfurt (LH) 16:35 19:35 INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminai (1) Agaba, Munich (RJ) .. Rome (RJ) 11:28 12:45

Tunis, Madrid, Casablanca (RJ) 20:00 20:20 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ) 21:15 21:15 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ) Knala Lampur, Singapore (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal (2)

MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils pet ig-ple 690 i 50 nana 450 i 480 400 / 350 180 / 140 200 / 150 330 / 280 500 / 400 200 / 150 Core ... Cucumbers (large) Cucumbers (small) 200 / 159 650 / 559 240 / 200 220 / 200 120 / 100 150 / 100 250 / 200 260 / 220 260 / 200 240 / 200 250 / 300 250 / 300 Grapetruit Marrow (large) Marrow (small) Onion (green) ... Orange ... Orange (Shamor Pepper (hot) ... Raddist 500 / 400 120 / 80 150 / 100



Hamzeh indirectly blames NMI for Karak hospital delay

By Abdullah Nsour Special to the Jordan times

AMMAN - Former Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh has indirectly: blamed the National Medical Institution (NMI) for the delay in building a new hospital planned in Karak as a gift from the Italian govern-

m () Han

10 G

Hamzeh said in an interview with the Jordan Times that the Italian government had allo-cated \$12 million for the construction and furnishing of the 200-bed hospital and arranged with the Jordanian government to set up the infastructure to pave the way for construction work to begin.

This was agreed in 1986 and was followed by a visit to Jor-dan by a team of Italian technicians and experts to study the project, Hamzeh noted. He said the Italians prepared the designs for the hospital in the following year and submitted them to the Health Ministry in Amman, which allocated JD 400,000 for the infrastructure to be laid as a first stage. Documents for tenders were

prepared by the ministry at a cost of JD 1,700, and it was thought that the infrastructure would be completed within three months. But now we are in 1990 and neither the infrastructure nor the building itself is ready," Hamzeh said. The former minister said the NMI, which has taken over

from the Health Ministry certain amendments to the Italian designs and this has angered the Italian ambassador and could have been the reason

behind the present delay. "I was surprised to hear that the NMI has raised the cost of

the infrastructure to JD 900,000 due to the introduction of plans for the installation of an electronic telephone exchange in addition to water, electricity and telephone networks in the original plans for the infrastructure," Hamzeh

"Parliament members from Karak Governorate who have been wondering about the delay should know the facts and should also realise that the NMI, which has an annual budget of JD 54.5 million, has so far failed to even lay the infrastructure for the hospital." Hamzeh said.

At the time of the announcement of the bospital project it was said that it could be sufficient for Karak's needs until the year 2000. It was also announced that the old Italian hospital in Karak would be



supplied with new equipment from Italy to improve and raise the standard of its services. According to Hamzeh, he visited the government hospital in Karak in 1985 and found

that it was "old fashioned, and beyond repair." He said that as health minister then he sought to secure the Italian help which came in an agreement that provides for the hospital project as a gift for the people of Jordan. But, he said, he regretted that the project has todate failed to materialise.

Arab groups to review **Palestinian situation**

AMMAN (Petra) — Meetings of Arab Human Rights Organisation and Arab ministers of health to be held in Tunis and Cairo respectively on Wednesday will discuss Arab Palestinian rights and the general health conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, according to Dr. Hassan Khreis, secretary general of the Arab Doctors

Khreis said in a statement Saturday that the three-day meeting in Tunis would discuss Zionist practices in the occupied lands as well as legislation pertaining to human rights in the Arab World. The Arab Human Rights Orga-

nisation, he said, is composed of a group of Arab voluntary organisations advocating human rights and follows up matters related to legislation on human rights and civil defence questions in Arab countries.

According to Khreis, Arab health ministers who will meet in Cairo will look into the health situation in the occupied lands and services offered by the Palestine Red Crescent Society and Arab organisations. The Cairo meeting will also look into questions related to pharmaceutical production in the Arab World and Palestine's request to join the

World Health Organisation.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

House panel to review income tax law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Financial Committee of the Lower House of Parliament will meet Sunday to continue discussions of the income tax law and its amendments. The House legal committee will meet to continue discussions of the higher court of justice law. The administrative committee will hold a meeting to discuss

CSC suggests priority to graduates

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Civil Service Commission (CSC) has referred to the Council of Ministers an amendment to the CSC statute, allowing more chance for university graduates to be employed in government offices and opening the door for those who applied in previous years to be employed this year. CSC Assistant Director Shafiq Khamis said the amendment provided for certain measures that would cope with new developments like giving priority to those who graduated first and average grades and giving certain marks for applicants based on interviews. Khamis said that the CSC had arranged for the appointment of a "good number of graduates" with priority going to the ministries of health

Trucks held up at Nuweibeh over dispute

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nearly 70 refrigerated trucks and lorries have delayed their entry into Egyptian territory after making a ferry boat voyage between Aqaba to Nuweibeh. Informed sources told the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i dailies that the trucks carrying food supplies and other material were stopped by their owners in view of an "abrupt" decision by the Egyptian authorities to raise the fees for their entry from 18 Egyptian pounds a month to 25 pounds. The president of the Union of Truckowners in . rdan, Haikal Nezar, has now gone to Nuweibeh to discuss the problem with the Egyptian authorities. He said he hoped the problem would be resolved soon in view of the recent resolutions taken by the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) leaders in Amman last month providing for transport facilities within the ACC countries.

Morocco marks king's accession to throne

AMMAN (Petra) - Moroccan Ambassador to Jordan Abdul Latif Al Iraqi held a reception Friday at the Matriott Hotel marking the anniversary of King Hussein's accession to throne. The reception was attended by Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, ministers, members of the Upper House and the Lower House of Parliament, members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps as well as a number of people.

Accord with Oman endorsed

AMMAN (Petra) - The Cabinet has endorsed the executive programme of a cultural and educational cooperation agreement between Jordan and Oman. The programme includes developing cultural and educational relations between the two countries in all fields. The Cabinet entrusted the Planning Ministry secretary general to sign the agreement on behalf of the Jordanian 20vernment.

Students urged to return to Azerbaijan

AMMAN (Petra) - The department of scholarships at the Ministry of Higher Education has urged all Jordanian students pursuing studies at universities and educational institutes of Azerbaijan to leave for the Soviet Union immediately as studies wili begin Monday.

Community college exams begin today

AMMAN (Petra) - A total of 6,000 students from all community colleges in the Kingdom will sit for comprehensive practical examinations due to begin Sunday. The examinations, which will last until March 26, will be supervised by 207 committees.

Conference on training to be held in Cairo

AMMAN (Petra) -- Jordan will participate in the fourth conference on training and administrative development due to convene in Cairo Monday. The three-day conference will discuss a number of papers dealing with characteristics of Arab administration in various sectors and other related topics.

Jordan, Syria boost industry coordination

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan and bility studies that precede such Syria Saturday signed the minutes of their meetings paving the way for more coordination in industry-related fields and charting a plan for joint cooperation in the production and marketing of pro-

Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Fariz and his Syrian counterpart Antoine Jubran signed the minutes of deliberations of their three-day meetings.

The talks came under the joint Syrian-Jordanian industry coor-dination committee co-chaired by the two ministers. The Jordan News Agency, Pet-

ra, said the minutes include agreements designed to boost industrial cooperation between Jordan and Syria.

The two sides agreed to prepare lists of requirements for industrial production including primary materials used in industry and semi-finished industrial products. They also agreed to cooperate in using all their resources for improving industrial production, and to exchange expertise and information related to industrial engineering designs and industrial projects and feasi-

projects.

The two sides agreed to begin unifying standards and specifications for 10 industrial commodities, according to Petra. It said that the two sides reviewed progress in joint industrial schemes and took several decisions concerning these industries, which inchuded the carpet and pesticides industries. They also agreed that priority should be given to marketing white cement, which they jointly produce, and to work on finding new markets for the

Following the signing of the minutes, Jubran said in a statement that the signing was in line with resolutions taken by the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee in Amman recently. Jubran said that these steps can only lead to Jordanian-Syrian industrial integration, a main aim of the joint committee. The Syrian minister lauded bilateral economic trade and commercial exchanges and cooperation. He said the two sides were determined to boost bilateral cooperation at all

Civil aviation centre named regional centre

AMMAN (Petra) — The Queen Noor Civil Aviation Technical College in Amman has been authorised by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to serve as a regional Middle East training centre. according to Mahmond Jamal Balqaz, director-general of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

He said that ICAO has informed the Civil Aviation Authority that as of this year the college will be authorised to prepare programmes for training

through its facilities. The Amman centre will be one of four world training regional centres which will be entrusted with providing training and information on civil aviation, and

maintenance of equipment used in air navigation and communications, Balgaz said.

He said the decision was taken following a series of visits by ICAO officials and experts to the Amman college and visits by CAA officials to the ICAO centres in Canada and the United States to familiarise themselves with the various training programmes which will be adopted a the Amman regional centre.

According to Balqaz, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been providing the college with considerable amount of technical assistance over the past two decades to improve its training programmes.

Jordan urges Islamic protection for Palestinian education institutions Organisation of Islamic Confer-

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has appealed to the Islamic World to consider the consequences of Israel's practices against Palestinian educational institutions in the occupied Arab territories and the danger posed to the young generation who are being deprived of basic education at their early age.

Dr. Mohammad Hamdan, head of the Jordanian delegation to the meetings on "Education for All" in Thailand, called on the Islamic World to help fend off the danger of Israel's practices, which he said, "are directed against not only the Palestinian people but also all Islamic countries and Arab states," and to provide all possible assistance to the Palestinians.

Hamdan was addressing the

and Cultural Organisation (ISES-CO), which opened in Thailand

Jordan calls on the Islamic

opening of a meeting by the Islamic Educational, Scientific

The three-day meeting comes ust before the opening of the United Nations-sponsored international conference on "Education for All" which is due to open in the Thai city of Jumtien on

World to adopt joint action designed to provide protection to the Islamic identity and Islamic culture in the face of the cultural invasion represented by the Zionist occupation to take other necessary action in line with the principles and objectives of the

ence (OIC)," Hamdan said. Hamdan, minister of education

and higher education, told OIC's 37 representatives gathered to discuss an ISESCO programme for the eradication of illiteracy in Arab and Islamic states urged the delegates to endorse a declaration by the U.N. international conference on education for all.

The eradication of illiteracy programme, Hamdan said, wili be submitted to the international conference as an important document for the Islamic World.

The programme, he said, reflects the Islamic World's views on basic educational rights and presents aspirations of the Islamic countries to achieve social justice

opportunities and training and in

safeguarding human dignity. The Jordanian delegation will deliver His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's message to the conference in which he outlines various aspects of education in the Arab World.

United Nations statistics show that about 62 million of the 200 million people living in the Arab World are illiterate.

United Nations agencies sponsoring the conference include the United Nations Children's Fund. the United Nations Educational. Scientific and Cultural Organisation, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank.

Bilad

Al Sham

review

begins

today

Indian speaker reaffirms support for Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of India's Parliament Rabi Ray Saturday called for a just solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict taking into account the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland and their right to an independent state.

Ray, who arrived here earlier in the day on a visit, was speaking at a meeting with Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar, with whom he discussed Jordanian-Indian relations and

ways to boost cooperation. The Palestine question was discussed at the meeting and Arar dwelt in-depth on Jordan's concern over the influx of Jews into occupied Palestine. Ray said his

AMMAN (Petra) — The Minis-

try of Supply Saturday issued new

instructions on the storage of

food supplies in private ware-

houses authorised by the ministry

on marketing commodities im-

1. Subsidised food supplies

should only be distributed by the

ministry to wholesale merchants

as registered with the Federation

of Jordanian Chambers of Com-

merce and authorised to sell

goods imported through the

2. All restaurants, factories and

General Union of Voluntary

Societies (GUVS) have started

work on a field survey to assess

the activities of charitable and

A statement carried by the

Jordan News Agency, Petra,

Saturday said that special teams

of social workers had been

assigned to the task, which will be

conducted in various parts of

The statement said that one of

the teams would work in Karak,

voluntary societies in Jordan.

ported by the ministry.

The ministry said:

country supports human rights. India is also keen to bolster Jordanian-Indian relations in economic and parliamentary fields. Several House members attended the meeting.

In an arrival statement, Rav paid tribute to the "firm and historical relations" linking Jordan and India, and called for bolstering economic ties between the two countries. In a press statement he made

upon arrival, Ray said that his talks in Amman would deal with parliamentary, cultural, and economic ties as well as political and parliamentary life in Jordan. Ray reiterated India's historicstand towards the Palestinian

for subsidised commodities

treated as wholesale merchants.

Each wholesale merchant deal-

ing with products supplied by the

Ministry of Supply should pro-

vide the ministry with an inven-

tory of the total amounts of

stored food supplies in his ware-

house within a period of one

4. Each wholesale merchant

should report to the ministry on a

regular basis about incoming and

outgoing food supplies in his

warehouse supported by bills and

5. Ministry of Supply officials

have the right to visit these ware-

second team would go to Irbid

The statement said that the

10-15 day visits were intended to

help collect information so as to

conduct a full study later on the

role and the programmes of char-

itable and voluntary societies and

their financial and administrative

operations and the prospect of

their involvement in small-size

income-generating projects in the

local communities through coop-

eration with other institutions.

Ministry sets new rules

month from now.

other documents.

and Mafraq regions.

confectionary stores should be houses and supervise the process

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Social Development and the second team would go to Irbid

Israel's occupation of Arab lands. Ray will also hold talks with Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, members of the parliament's permanent bureau, and members of the Foreign Affairs Committee on various issues of common interest including parliamentary rela-

cause and called for an end to

Upon arrival, the Indian delegation was received by Speaker Arar, his assistants Abdul Salam Freihat and Dr. Nayef Abu Tayeh, Indian Ambassador to Jordan Gajendra Singh, and members of the Indian embassy

6. Should the Ministry of Supply

decide to raise the price of any

subsidised commodity, all ware-houses dealing with this commod-

ity should pay the difference in price to the ministry immediately

after conducting a stocktaking to

determine the quantities found in

7. Should the ministry decide to

reduce the price of a certain

subsidised commodity, the minis-

try will pay the difference in price

8. Violators of the law could be

fined up to JD 300 and might face

prison terms ranging between one

to the concerned merchants.

to carry out such schemes.

GUVS, established in 1958,

incoporates over 450 voluntary

and charitable societies around

the Kingdom, employing 45,000

societies and government bodies.

the store.

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday opens the fifth international conference on the history of Bilad Al Sham at the University of Jordan. The five-day conference, organised by the University of Jordan

and Yarmouk University in cooperation with Damascus University, will deal with 11 topics covering agriculture, water, industry and achitecture as well as arts and administrative and commercial affairs during the Abbasid period from 750 A.D. to 1059 A.D. Scholars and historians partici-

pating in the conference began arriving in Amman for the meetings Saturday and were welcomed by University of Jordan officials and members of the conference's organisational committee. The delegates represent various Arab and Islamic countries, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom as well as universities in the occupied Arab territories.

The organisers said that the five-day conference would be a continuation of earlier conferences held at the University of Jordan and Damascus University to review Arab and Islamic periods in the history of Bilad

During the conference, a major displaying antiquities and artefacts and other materials shedding light on the civilisations of the Arab region under Arab and Islamic period.

Prince Hassan is chairman of the organising committee, which groups the presidents of Jordanian universities and other personalities like the chairman of the Jordan Academy of Arabic and the director of the Department of

Study launched on societies' role The statement said that the study would provide ideas on the financial needs of these societies

Antiquities.

Seminar on voluntary workers. The union acts as a link between these population according to GUVS Chairman Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib. GUVS begins is also in charge of voluntary and charitable societies in the occu-

IRBID (J.T.) — A national seminar on communication, popula-tion and development will open at Yarmouk University Sunday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The three-day seminar, orga-

nised by the university in cooperation with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UN-ESCO), is designed to focus attention on the population situation in the country, the impact of population growth in Jordan and the role of communications in dealing with population problems and laying down principles for possible inclusion of the subject of population education in school syllabuses.

UNFPA last year appointed Dr. Majid Khazraji as a consultant for the National Population Committee in Jordan to help it carry out population projects. The committee, which is headquartered at the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund, is trying to set up a national population strategy whose objectives are in conformity with the national development aspirations.

Taking part in Sunday's semi-nar will be representatives of various ministries and concerned government departments as well as private institutions.

Deputies air diverse views

(Continued from page 1) position."

Mdanat quoted a senior Soviet official, whom he said was "close to (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev," as saying that the immigration of Soviet Jews was more of an embarrassment to Moscow than to the Arab World, according to the sources. He explained that the exodus of Soviet Jews was a problem of theirs as well, in the sense that it contradicts the atmosphere of openness and indicates the dissatisfaction of their own citizens, the sources

Deputy Abdul Hafiz 'Alawi, speaking on behalf of the Islamic Bloc, reportedly lashed out at the Soviet Union which he said always adopted the policy of forc-

a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Cultural Centre.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and

the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed

EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition of oils and watercolours by Jordanian artist Yousef Baddawi at the gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental --- 9:00

☆ Exhibition by Jordanian artist Hassan Jalai at the Royal

.☆ A feature film entitled "All About Eve" at the American Centre

time and place with the concerned institutions.

such as Muslims and Circassians. He was quoted as saying: "We can see for ourselves some of those who were victims of this policy here in this House." (He pointed to Sheikh Abdul Baqi Jammoh. a Chichin), according to the sources.

'Alawi was quoted as saying in an apparent reference to Muslim pendence from the Soviet Union.

speaking on behalf of the 19member "National Bloc," expressed a view sympathetic to the official stand but launched an

ing the migration of minorities such as Muslims and Circassians.

attack against the United States, efforts, the source said. He added that talk about the sources.

Soviet Jewish immigration is part of the Soviet Union's longstanding policy of maintaining hegemony over the republics, Azerbaijan which is seeking inde-

Deputy Hisham Sharari,

Reviewing Arab-U.S. rela-

the country.

tions, Sharari argued that it is U.S. policy which has resulted in Soviet Jewish immigration, the sources said. He explained, according to the

sources that the U.S. economic and political pressure on the Soviet Union over the past few years forced the Soviet Union to bend to the pressure after the sweeping changes in Eastern Europe and the growing internal pressure on the Kremlin.

The National Bloc, comprising independent and liberal deputies, including a few Cabinet members, put most of the blame for the problem on Washington rather than Moscow.

Sharari reportedly said as much (the bloc) blamed our friend the Soviet Union, most of the blame falls on the United States which has forced this development. Other deputies who spoke dur-

ing the closed session proposed several measures to address the problem ranging from reviving the Eastern Front and mobilising the people's army to achieving Arab unity and declaring jihad against Israel.

According to one source, there was a consensus on the need to maintain national unity and forge a united Arab front through the revival of the Eastern Front.

There was agreement that the source of the problem_is from within Arab ranks and the only solution can be through Arab He added that talk about estab-

lishing a united Arab army was supported by all speakers, including Islamists, leftists and indepen-According to the sources leftist

Deputy Theeb Marji spoke on behalf of deputies Fares Nabulsi and Fakhri Kawar, while deputies Husni Shiyab and Mansour Murad, also leftists of the now moribund Democratic Bloc, spoke separately. Shiyab reportedly focused his

speech on the need to clean our 'own" house first by combatting corruption, enhancing national unity and achieving reform at all

A Cabinet member and a member of the House warned however that exaggerating threats from Soviet immigration on Jordan could become a self-fulfilling prophecy and could lead to negative results in the context of providing an adequate atmosphere for investment and stability, the sources said.

The minister reportedly said that while during last Tuesday's session deputies put the blame for lack of progress in investigating the causes of the economic crisis on the Financial Committee, they appeared to be seeking to shift the blame onto the government

during this session. The minister, reportedly added that the government preferred that the House committee carried out the investigation so that Cabinet members could be free to plan for the future.

pied Arab territories.

There are fears among ministers that if the government started investigations in corruption cases, it (the government) may end up being accused of cover-ups - some sensitive issues such ; Royal Jordanian, according to the minister.

He reportedly explained that the present board of directors of the national airline have so far been unable to incriminate any of the previous executives of the airline because of the lack of evidence in the airine's books. Royal Jordanian is expected to

unveil its 1988 and 1989 year-end balance sheet within the next two days, it was said. Prime Minister Mudar Badran has said that no former or present

officials would be put on trial

unless enough evidence was made

available to indict them. Badran, who headed a Cabinet meeting later Saturday, was expected to brief the Cabinet on the outcome of His Majesty King Hussein's talks in Gulf states which ended Thursday.

Israeli Arabs

(Continued from page 1) to block the Middle East peace process.

We can understand the deep (Arab) concern," Fedotov told reporters. "So let us coordinate our efforts on how to prevent new settlements in the occupied terriJORDAN TIMES

Tel: 667171

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MARMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAVIARMEH

Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation. University Read, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan,

Telephones: 567171/5, 670141-4, 684311, 684366 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising ra es are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Arabs are being had

THE EYES of the world were once again focused on Saturday's Israeli inner cabinet meeting to give its final word on the U.S. proposals for Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. This was taking place amid renewed hopes that the pressures being applied on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir from all sides, including his Labour partners in the government, to accept these proposals would succeed. The last-minute footdragging by Shamir to extract more favourable conditions and assurances from Washington had been met with resistance from all quarters, including his deputy Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin. When all failed. Shamir tried in vain to ensure receipt of extra U.S. aid to settle Soviet Jews without offering assurances that such new immigrants would end up in Arab territories. If anything, all these recent developments mean that when the U.S. decides to gut its feet down, it can create miracles, albeit it is premature to label the latest U.S. successes with Israel as such.

True, Shamir and his proteges in the Israeli government tried to scream the house down on U.S. Secretary of State James Balter for demanding assurances from Israel that the extra \$460 million aid would not be used to settle the new immigrants in the occupied territories and demanded a rapid reconsideration of Baker's terms. When this Israeli outery was effectively rebuffed by Washington, a glimmer of hope was struck that suggests that preliminary peace talks between israel and the Palestinian side was after all in the offing. Still, the Arab side would prefer that no aid be offered to Israel at this stage to settle new immigrants even if such aid is effectively linked to assurances that none of it would be used to settle them in Arab territories. The Arab position should be an allout rejection of any settlement of Jewish immigrants whether in Israel or outside it in the Arab territories. Surely, Washington knows and compreheads that any settlement of Jewish immigrants in Israel proper with U.S. funds would in the final analysis release Israeli funds that would end up being spent on expanding israeli settlements in the Arab territories. There is growing fear, therefore, that as rosy as the picture that is being painted about the latest developments on the prospects of Israeli-Palestinian talks, the Arab side is being nevertheless had. The clearest picture that is emerging from all recent events and developments portray an Arab success or a semblance of success that is only true in form at a time when Israel is still striking one substantive victory after the other in metters that count most. Thus, as the Arab side may wish to celebrate the beginning or near beginning of peace talks between Israel and an unidentified Palestinian delegation. Israel earns another half a billion of orgently needed U.S. funds over and above the \$3 billion that it annually gets in order to populate itself and in due course the occupied territories with millions of new immigrants from the four corners of the world.

jordan press editorials

Al Ra'i daily on Saturday referred to King Hussein's latest tour in the Guli states where he discussed pan-Arab affairs and the question of Jewish immigration into Palestine. The paper said that although Jordan is most affected by this immigration, and is bound to suffer as a result of Israel's policies in the region, it was the first Arao country to call the nation's attention to the danger and to spearhead joint efforts designed to abort Israel's ambitious plans in the Arab region. The paper said that it is not yet late for a collective Arab action, and it is incumbent on all Arabs, even those in the Gulf region to rally their ranks and unify their stand. Israel's ambitions in the Arab homeland can never be fulfilled without first overcoming Jordan's strong defensive fortress; and for this reasons the kingdom has been facing continued threats from the Zionists, noted the daily. It said that Jordan, which continues to back the uprising of the Palestinian people, is now confronting a real threat to its existence, and can only rely on its own strength and that of the Arab Nation which can back its efforts and its defence.

A columnist in Al Ra'i draws attention to the need for Jordan to increase its food production, and says that the government realises this need and it takes only a political decision to achieve this objective. Fahed Al Facel: cites statistics which notes that Jordan's consumption of cereals in the 1970s has been increasing at the rate of 11.5 per cent while local cereal production between 1972 and 1979 was decreasing at the rate of 15.3 per cent. The wester also notes that Jordan's imports of food products increased from 51 per (7.5 per cent). Syria (22.9 per cent). Morocco (4 per cent) Egypt (45 per cent) and Tunisia (45.5 per cent). He says that the direct result of increased consumption is the population growth in the country, and also the rise in the standard of income and the access to different types of food supplies. Since there is difficulty in controlling population growth in Jordan, then the only way of dealing with the problem is through serious efforts to increase food production. He says that increased food production is not only for local consumption out could also be used for export to bring in additional income.

Al Dustour daily noted in its editorial Saturday that positive side in the U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's recent statement about peace prespects. The paper noted that Baker has made it clear that Israel bears the responsibility for any failure in achieving peace, and that Washington will not provide further assistance to the Jewish state should the latter fail to provide pledges not to use such assistance for setting up new settlements in the occupied Arab territories. This stand, said the paper. constitutes a new diplomatic move by the United States to bring pressure to bear on Israel, something which of course angered Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his aides, at a time when Israel is involved in a huge settlement process to absorb the new immigrants coming from Eastern Europe. The paper said that the American stand is welcomed by the Arabs as good development, but it is feared that Baker, like his prodecessor's will go back on his stand, and so destroy the last chance for a

Sunday's Economic Pulse

New development plan underway

THE current economic and social development plan for the years 1986-1990 was born dead. The engineers of that plan insisted on closing their eyes and senses to the new winds. They assumed that the future is nothing more than a simple extention of the past. The

plan was similar to previous plans, only its size was bigger.

Only now did many people realise that the 1986-1990 plan ignored the new circumstances, and failed to take new trends into account. In summary the plan was based on expansion and heavy borrowing while admitting that the return on new investments (12 per cent) would not be sufficient to service the debt.

To illustrate this fact we have to recall that the plan included fresh external borrowing of around \$3.5 billion over the five years 1986-1990 to finance economic development only. Military expenditure on armaments was not even mentioned in the plan. In other words, the actual expansion in external indebtedness during this period was not a simple mistake which happened under unforeseen circumstances. It was a method of life well researched, planned and determined by the economic and political elite of the country, including those who now raise their

In practice, Jordan did not borrow that much for economic development. Less than half of the planned debt was actually contracted and utilised, yet the country reached the point of crisis. On the other hand, it was obvious in 1985 and 1986, when the plan was formulated, that oil prices were in decline, the Gulf war had no end in sight, Arab financial aid to Jordan was dropping; yet, instead of putting the house in order, the plan opted for

expansion. The total planned investments in the five years period

LETTERS

RICHARD Henry's article on tourism (Jordan Times, February

18, 1990 throws a lot of light on the plight of this industry in

There is a lot behind the question that Mr. Henry raises. If

Jordan wants tourism, then the government has to stand up and

be counted. It is time that we go beyond utterrances and general

statements. The government must issue very clear instructions to

all its various organisations and departments to put aside the red

ape, roll up their sleeves, and get down to working with the Ministry of Tourism in order to make the visitors' stay as pleasant

and enjoyable as possible. Regulations and restrictions that are applied just because they have been there for years must be put to the wayside. Tourism can only flourish in an environment that is

I do not necessarily agree with Mr. Henry in his evaluation of

the September 1988 agreement signed by the Ministry of Tourism and Royal Jordanian. I have made my views clear on this matter in a letter published in the Jordan Times last year. However,

there is no denying that Royal Jordanian is a very major mainstay of Jordanian tourism. It has played, and continues to play, a primary role in promoting Jordan as a destination.

Unfortunately, Royal Jordanian may soon lose this preeminent role and this will be very deterimental indeed to our beleaguered industry. If there is any truth to the rumours going

around, this frantic wave of investigating people for past "mismanagement" may soon hit Royal Jordanian. Please do not

misunderstand me, I am not against it, as long as those who wish

to judge are driven by the general good and not indulge in satisfying their grudges. But, with the recent management

decisions of curtailing many services that RJ has painstakingly

cultivated in the past (such as reducing their North Atlantic and

some of their European flights), the airline is, to put it mildly, demoralised. Coming on top of this, the rumoured "investigation" may very well herald the end of the airline as we have known it

during the last decade. In his address to the Upper House of

Parliament last week, the prime minister suggested that his

government was contemplating turning some of its institutions to

the private sector. I would urge him to place the airline on top of the list, in order to give it a fighting chance to survive. This will

help shield the airline from any fallout resulting from the

There are certain basic facts that are intrinsic to the tourism

industry. With the prevailing economic climate in the country, it

proven fact that minimum promotional funds spent wisely bring

back manifold foreign exchange to the country. In fact, some countries have returns in excess of 50-fold on every dollar spent

Second, domestic labour: The tourism industry is very labourintensive. As a rule of thumb, every 100 tourists create one new

job opportunity in the hotels, restaurants, travel agencies or the

Estimates put the total number of visitors to the country (not

taking into consideration the foreign labour force and the transit

traffic) at over 500,000 persons in 1989. A modest and very

achievable increase of 10 per cent during this year will provide job

serve is totally unfounded. I can cite many examples of young Jordanian men and women who do an outstanding job in hotels,

restaurants, agencies, etc. More and more are being attracted to

this industry every day. What they need is training, motivation,

guidance and information. The people of this country are friendly

at present being levied should be an obvious one. Unfortunately,

every time the suggestion is brought up, it hits the brick wall of

government routine. Apparently, laws require that all monies go.

to the Treasury and are then allocated to the various departments

according to budgetary requirements. One would think that

successive governments would have found a way to pass the

necessary amendment to allow part of the 10 per cent government

tax to be paid directly to the Ministry of Tourism. This inaction

can only idicate lack of interest in, or awareness of, tourism.

I think it is ridiculously obvious to anyone wishing to see that

tourism can, and must, play a leading role along the path of

economic recovery. As I mentioned earlier, we must all,

Munir Y Nassar,

P.O. Box: 408, Ammen.

International Traders,

government and private sector, stand up and be counted.

and hospitable by nature. Ask any tourist in the street. Mr. Henry's suggestion to allocate part of the government tax

The belief that many hold that Jordanians do not know how to

opportunities for 500 Jordanians!

ransportation and other support segments of the industry.

becomes essential to highlight two of these characteristics: First, foreign exchange earnings: Mr. Henry covered this important aspects very effectively in his article. It is indeed a

Time for action

were JD 3.175 million or the equivalent of \$10 billion. This huge plan did not of course get implemented, nor was its implementation possible. The crisis proved that we were building

on shifting sands. No official declaration pronounced the five year plan cancelled. However, for all practical purposes, the plan was dead before it was published in a neat book in two languages. During the period covered by the plan, the government was not worried about economic development. Its main worry was to put off fires that started to erupt here and there in various sectors: moneychangers with deposits and no assets, over-extended banks with bad debts, and large and small scale industries that needed immediate bail out to survive, etc. Even the process of putting off these fires was hardly more than buying more time and allowing problems to fester and finally explode.

It is understood now that the Ministry of Planning is consider-ing a new economic plan for the years 1991-1995, one that will be flexible. Only one year will be firm and obligatory, represented by the budget of that year, while the planning for the period beyond will be indicative and subject to change in accordance to actual

Central planning is good, at least on paper. The difficulties arise only in the implementation and the attempt of putting the real changing life into pre-determined molds and patterns.

In general, Jordan is not without an economic plan now. We have the economic corrective programme, which was agreed upon with the IMF. So far three Jordanian governments adhered to the programme. It was formally presented to the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament as a basis for 1990 budget, it received an implied approval from both houses and from the enlightened public opinion.

Therefore, any new plan has to be a reproduction of, and an eleboration on, the current corrective programme. We have no other option as long as the knife of indebtedness is pointed at our

Under these circumstances, the formulation of an official economic plan is not urgent, nor harmful in itself. What we need now is not an investment and financing plan, as was the case so far, but a plan of policies, targets and timetables. The plan, if any, should be confined to the public sector, as the private sector will take care of itself and should not be planned for except by way of

Finally, it should not be forgotten at this juncture, that the countries that used central planning have abandoned the idea and tried to employ the signals of the free market in search for efficiency and better allocation of resources. Only those countries that are economically underdeveloped, and politically undemo-cratic, still have five-year plans. The economic situation in these countries is deteriorating year after year. The developing countries that were able to achieve the economic miracle, such as Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Houg Kong, Malaysia and Thailand did so without central planning. They only provided the proper incentives, the right climate and the effective institutions, which released the real economic potential of their peoples.

Middle East may profit from developments in East Europe

By M.C. Jaspersen

voices in criticising indebtedness.

WASHINGTON — With new frontiers opening up in Eastern Europe, the United States sees a possible bonanza for Middle Eastern oil producing countries.

"We see this as an opportunity, rather than as a cause for concern," Department of Energy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Energy Emergencies John Easton told USIA Worldnet satellite television programme participants in Dhahran, Riyadh and Kuwait. In the February 27 "Dialogue"

programme, Easton explained

not encumbered by officialdom.

To the Editor:

'investigation."

that "this new life coming to Eastern Europe, the change in the governments, the economic freedoms, the new democratic freedoms that these countries have, together with the declining production in the Soviet Union, should provide new oil markets.

"I tend to think that the Gulf countries in particular will be able to increase their capacity to satisfy the demand in Eastern Europe and see that as an opportunity not only for your part of the world, but also for us in the United States. With healthier economies in Eastern Europe, we'll be able to have increased markets for the

goods and services we produce," Easton said.

In order to cope with just such new challenges, President Bush has charged the Department of Energy with establishing a national energy strategy, a plan for the future that should help the United States make "some very difficult choices" concerning clean, efficient use of energy, Easton said.

"We're making them right now in debating our Clean Air Act. And it's that sort of decision that will have to be made as we refine this policy and deliver it to the president by the end of this year," be added.

Easton said that the strategy would have to take into consideration the many energy factors on the minds of Americans, who still remember the energy shortages of the 1970s and the dangers of nuclear energy following the accident at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania in 1979.

Furthermore, the unresolved problem of nuclear waste disposal has halted construction of new nuclear power plants. Finally, there is growing

national concern about acid rain and global warming, raising questions about the use of coal, America's most abundant domes-

With U.S. domestic oil production at its lowest level in 25 years and oil imports once again reaching record levels, the Bush administration wants to see some serious, long-term energy policy developed now, Easton said.

A Riyadh participant asked whether Easton feared that political flareups in the Middle East might again interrupt the flow of "We do not expect a recurr-

ence of the activities of the past, Easton said, adding that the United States believes "that the whole geopolitical climate has changed. "While sometimes difficulties

in the Mideast cause people to be concerned - and we can't overlook those, at the same time, we in the United States are trying to build better bilateral relationships with all the countries in the Gulf to have a good, mutually beneficial relationship." Easton

A Kuwaiti reporter asked what U.S. opinion was on Kuwait's suggestion that OPEC ought to "correct" output quotas to keep the prices of oil down and stimulate demand.

"We, of course, are keen observers of Kuwait's call for the scrapping of quotas, but at the same time, we see a number of other countries in OPEC that might have a different view." replied Easton. So, he said, "like the rest of the world, we will be watching the meeting ... in March to see whether the ministers are able to come up with any conclusion regarding quotas."

Easton remarked that the question of quotas should be moot soon. "As the world demand for oil continues to increase," quotas will be insignificant "because most of the members of OPEC will be producing at their capacity by

Easton reaffirmed the general U.S. belief that true market forces — the natural laws of supply and demand — ought to guide petroleum markets, rather than such measures as pricefixing.

Asked whether the United States sees global warming (re-

sulting from the burning of fessi fuels) as a threat to the environment, and whether global warming might eventually threaten perroleum production. Easton said that while the United States treats the issue of global climate change as a very significant issue that deserves the world's attention," America will not leap to conclusions. The administration will await the outcome of the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

"We feel that the work undertaken by the IPCC is very neography in order to help guide us to " worldwide solution about global climate change," the energy specialist said.

"There could be a very significant impact on the world if we take action before we understand what the results of that action (halting fossil fuel burning) would be, and whether such action is required," Easton warned — U.S. Information Agency.

Readers, reporters agog at free press

By Mary Beth Sheridan The Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania — As birds twitter in the pre-dawn darkness, and weary Dacia cars begin to chug through the capital, people start lining up for one of the hottest commodities in postrevolutionary Romania - the

The top papers are sold out in a few hours, and a few little boys begin a brisk business of selling hoarded copies for twice the 1-lei

(5 cent) price. Once scorned as a gray prop-

that toppled Ceausescu and led to an end of censorship, the number of newspapers in Romania has nearly quadrupled, according to

Since the December revolution

information and a public forum for a people denied both under 45

Libera, one of the top dailies.

the culture ministry. The top three -

aganda organ for dictator Nicolae
Ceausescu, the Romanian press
has become a dynamic source of
Libera, Tineretul Liber and Adevarul — have roughly tripled their circulation, to a total of nearly 4 million.
"We now line up for newspap. years of Communism.

"People are dying to find out the truth," said Octavian Paler, honorary director of Romania

ers more than for food," said Constantin Arambasa, 50, standing with about 40 people at dawn waiting for a Bucharest news shop to open. There is a thirst for news. Everyone wants to be informed."

The independent press has served as a guide for an excited and bewildered population to the explosion of freedom following Ceausescu's 24-year rule.

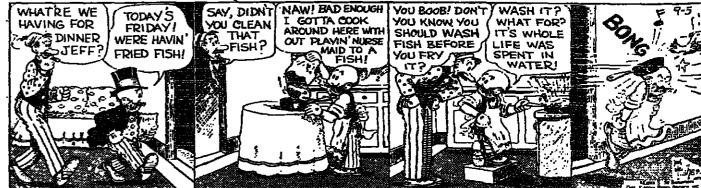
uncovering the excesses of the Ceausescu era and making the interim government toe the democratic line. "This is our exercise in demo-

It has taken the leading role in

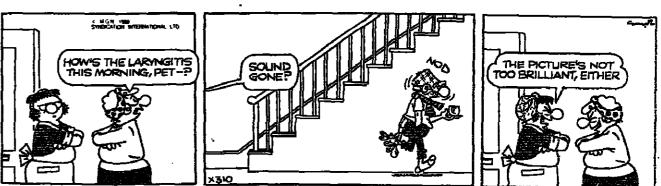
cracy," said Arambasa, who waits 1½ hours each morning to buy the paper before going to work "It's a school." The change has come despite

the fact that many of the reporters are boldovers from when newspapers were slavish promoters of the Ceausescu personality cult, publishing little but re-touched photos of the dictator,

Mutt'n' Jeff

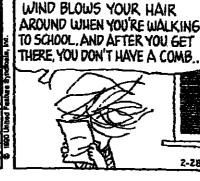


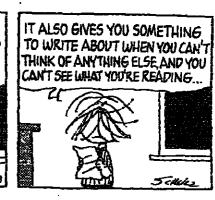
Andy Capp

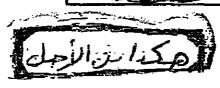


Peanuts









Learning how to do it the Western way

By Phillippa Neave

133 | Curly

CUTI BE

THE REAL

* Aledan

170 A

100

rol

~ ...

....

S

F

WASHINGTON, D.C. — "People in Poland are very tired after iving for 40 years under communist rule. Today, people are living in even worse conditions than they were a year ago, but everyone realises that they have to go through this, that the only way out is to have a free economic and political system," says 27-year-old Mariam Lemke who comes from Krakow in southern

Along with 10 other young professionals from Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia who recently arrived in Washington to participate in a work-training programme, he is likely to be one of Eastern Europe's new generation of leaders who will help implement the fundamental changes now underway. As Eastern Europeans increasingly turn to Western countries for help and advice, this group of 11 is the first to arrive in Washington as part of an internship programme spon-sored by the National Forum Foundation (NFF), a privatelyfunded non-profit research and education organisation.

The programme, brainchild of NFF President Jim Denton, aims at promoting the transition taking place by training young professionals selected from among the activists of the pro-democracy forces in Eastern Europe in the political, business and media fields. A total of 45 young professionals from Poland, Hungary and Czekoslovakia will train in Washington this year, and Denton hopes to extend the programme to include Romanians and Bulgarians. Funding comes from

several private groups.

Lemke, a legal adviser to the Solidarity movement on par-liamentary and six other "students" have been assigned to the office of a member of the U.S. Congress where for 15 weeks they will learn the fundamentals of

parliamentary procedure. Slawomir Gorecki, 30, also from Poland, worked for 10 years with what was then the outlawed Solidarity trade union led by Lech Walesa: "Poland has a long history of democracy," he notes. "Its 1791 constitution was the first in Europe. Solidarity has always been a democratic movement but it was working under undemocratic conditions. After 40 years of communism we have lost practice but I am pretty sure the transition can be done quickly

and smoothly."
Martin Weiss, a 27-year-old founder and editor of several underground publications in Czechoslovakia, will spend his interuship at "New Republic," a Washington-based political magazine. Not as optimistic as Gorecki, he explains that his country also has a fairly strong tradition of democracy, but the pro-democracy, party Civic Forum which gave the country its current president in playwright Vaclav Havel is loosely organised compared to the formidable communist machine that still pervades the country's institutions.

Though hatred for the old regime runs deep and most people associated with it are mistrusted, mass purges are unlikely, if only because they would bring the country to a standstill. Says Weiss: "Some people would like to dismiss all the directors, whoever they are, as a matter of political revenge. Politically, the major problem is that we have to find enough competent people trained for the top posts. They exist but we must create a climate m which they will be encouraged to speak out and be assertive. After decades of living under the system, people are not used to being outspoken."

The situation in Hungary, where the communist party still rules but under a different name, is much the same according to Miklos Martin-Kovacs, 37, who is senior editor for Hungarian Radio and is due to train with a several television stations: "We will have our first true parliamentary elections (March 25). There must be a change at the top government level, but we need to keep some of the experts of the old regime because they have the skills... We need a new political structure, but we also need a new economic structure; the government cannot govern and control the economy: let competition

work." The prospect of a weak or unstable government in Hungary because of the fragmentation of opposition parties does not worry Martin-Kovacs: "Look at Italy!" ne exclaims. "Governments come and go every few months but the economy works, it's booming. I hope we get the same chance but for it to work the economic framework must be independent from government."

All four young interns who



Teaming up to create a new society in Eastern Europe: From left to right, Martin Weiss from Czechoslovakia; Miklos Martin-Koracs of Hun-

gary; Slawomir Gorecki and Mariam Lemke, both of Poland; and Jim Denton of the U.S. National

discussion had one phrase on lems." their lips: free-market economy. "We don't know what to ex-NFF President Denton, who has pect from the free market," his been to Eastern Europe several compatriot Lemke admits, "but times over the past year pointed all Poles are very much in favour out that "the definition of what a of it. We have seen the failure of free market differs from person our system." He stressed that to person. A lot of people are not several Western consulting firms quite sure what the free market is have already come to Poland to and what it really means, but advice on building the legal inobviously it appears as a system frastructure of a free-market ecothat has worked well in the West nomy and to train managers. and over the past 15 years in the "We need this if we want to Asian countries that have applied attract foreign investors and I hope that in a few months, we'll Dressed in smart suits and ties, have a free market and people

the Eastern Europeans looked won't have any problems doing nothing like their dowdy elders. business in Poland." They spoke with enthusiasm and Faced with the prospect of clearly saw economic liberalisamass unemployment after ineffition as a priority. Said Poland's cient heavy industries are shut Gorecki, who having fed himself down, Eastern Europe badly on a long diet of Beatles music needs to retrain workers, Martinand Hollywood movies speaks Kovacs says: "The government American English with ease: cannot take care of providing people with jobs, but we are facing a qualification crisis." "Changing the political situation has to be done with economic reforms. It's the first thing people The job distribution was "all

care about.... This government wrong," Lemke agrees. "People had to wait in line at shops for has the massive support of the people and they will make sacrifive hours just because there weren't enough people working fices. A year ago, you had to line up for hours for a piece of meat. there. Mass unemployment will occur, but it will be short-term, during the transition period.' but prices are very high. There has never been a government that Adds Gorecki: "If foreign businesses are willing to risk and accepted to be interviewed in it has been warning people every invest in Poland, the private secwhat was a good-humoured, open day on radio and TV about probtor will grow and create new jobs

for people who have been fired from factories that produce almost nothing. People understand that."

In these countries where the state provided jobs-for-life, Martin-Kovacs points out, work incentives and ethics are seriously eroded: "In Hungary, it was embarrassing to be successful in business; if you were rich, you had to hide your money. If someone worked hard in an administrative position, it didn't look good, it was not accepted by society. A self-made man was not appreciated."

Says Poland's Gorecki: "Making a career was something to be ashamed of because it always meant being involved in some way with the communist party and working hand-in-hand with the people who were so unpopular. We will have to change this way of thinking so that people know that having an career is honourable and that it can be usueful to the country. We have to attach our personal success to the success of our country."

Although the experience they will gain from their internship will undoubtedly give them a personal advantage, the four were unanimous in their desire to share the benefit of their new skills with

Czechoslovakia's Weiss, who

will study the whole process of magazine publishing, from writing and editing to the technical aspects of lay-out and printing. explains: "The experience won't mean I will necessarily be promoted, but I hope it will improve the business I am working for. We are just starting and we need it." Weiss is co-founder of "independent Press Centre," an independent daily news bulletin.

"We are at the beginning of creating a free press and every beginning is hard," Lemke says "Today we only have one daily, in a few weeks, we will have three or four."

According to Weiss, in Czechoslovakia as in most of Eastern Europe the press is strapped for lack of paper and printing capacity. In addition he says, "the government has not come up with the basic package of laws (protecting the press). The old papers are writing in a freer manner but they are still run by the same people and they are unable to overstep their own shadow. But the biggest obstacle to launching new papers is economic. I am hoping that new laws will make it more profitable to set up a paper. At the moment taxes on publishing are very high."

By contrast, Hungary which introduced a new law on the press a year ago is already further down the road. "The free-market has started to work," Martin-Kovacs says. "Freedom of the press is almost total, but it has allowed a lot of gossip and even pornographic papers to appear... that's the price of freedom."

The four young Eastern Europeans said expectations were high in their countries, but that people are confused and don't know what to expect. "Everyone knows there is no going back," Weiss explains. "The regime has ex-hausted all its possibilities. But I am not sure many people know what the changes imply.

According to Martin-Kovacs, there is a lot of confusion in Hungary, yet, "people are optimistic because they know there is a real transition, they can feel it. But this optimism must be fueled by economic results and nobody knows who can provide that.'

As for Poland, Gorecki says, the mood is also a mix of optimism and confusion. "If you ask people on the street how they feel, the typical answer is: 'We are scared, we fear these changes. but there is no other choices.



Views from the bridge between two continents

By John Rettie

ARIF BEY had real trouble finding an Azerbaijani language kindergarten for his children. "There are any number of Russian language schools in the cen-tre of Baku," he said, "but I could find only one Azerbaijani school, and conditions there were

To even moderate Azeri nationalists like Arif Bey. a lecturer in military history, this is one of the many dismal consequences of long years of Russification. "We've been cut off from our history, as well as from our cultural links with the Middle East," he said. "It was a deliberate policy of Stalin, who hated all peoples of Turkic origin.

One of Stalin's tricks was to keep altering the Azeri script. In 1929 it was changed from Arabic to Latin, and in 1939 from Latin to Cyrillic. Then in 1960 an extra six Latin letters were added, because Cyrillic as used in Russian was inadequate. No wonder schoolchildren were confused. 'As a result, people in Azerbaijan nowadays hardly even know the work of our great 12th century poet Nizami." he com-plained. It might be like forgetting Chaucer.

Then there was a more gruesome, and more typical, Stalinist way of isolating the Azeris in Russia from their brothers in Iran and, to a lesser degree, Turkey. In the 1930s an estimated 72,000 Azerbaijanis were shot, mainly intellectuals. "That's one reason why there are so few Azeris in the centre of the city," said Arif

Now, of course, since January's pogroms, there are very few Armenians either, and many zerbaijanis are saddened by the loss. "We have a lot in common with the Armenians, you know," said Rais Allekhverdov, a government minister in the republic. Our music, our cuisine, are almost the same. Baku without

the Armenians has lost colour." It is hard to tell under grey winter skies, with soldiers patrolling the streets, armoured cars guarding key buildings and the temperature only just above freezing. But sit in a cafe on Nizami square with the Caspian sea just down the road, and sip coffee awhile — or more likely tea — and imagine the blossom on the trees in the spring sunshine, with the vines creeping up

the buildings bursting into life. You could be in the warm bustle of Veracruz, on the Gulf of Mexico, or in Valparaiso on the Pacific, with its strong British connections. The British were here in Baku, too, in the heyday

to block any Russian attempt to move further south. Baku has always been a melt-ing pot on the frontiers between east and west, Islam and Christianity, and is home to nearly 80 ethnic groups. For centuries the Caucasus, northern Turkey and Iran have been fought over. The three peoples who suffered most

from this were the Armenians,

the Kurds and the Azeris, but

despite their turbulent history, or

perhaps because of it, there is an

open-hearted warmth about the Azeris, at least in Azerbaijan. In Baku, Europe and the Middle East shade imperceptibly into each other, so that you never quite know which continent you are in. Islam is weak, so weak that it is little but a tradition now. A sort of Beirut, perhaps, before the word became synonymous with death and destruction. People go to the mosque only for

According to Ismail Agaev, of the Azerbaijani foreign ministry all Soviet republics have foreign ministries — Christianity is very far from alien or hostile to the Azeris. It was established in Azerbaijan until the 8th century, and the crusades had little or no echo here. Islam came late to this northern outpost. But there have been some signs of a revival

ceremonies such as weddings and

under Mr. Gorbachev's glasnost. Islamic prayers were, it is true, intoned among the pathways and mounds of red carnations around the graves of the people killed when Soviet troops smashed into Baku on the night of January 19. Crowds still pour up to the cemetery overlooking the city, where a million people gathered three days later to mourn their dead. But there is little sense of Islamic

If Islam is still barely more than peripheral, however, there is a strong sense of being misunderstood and misrepresented by the rest of the world - which includes Russia - just because they are Muslims. More important than that, perhaps, the Soviet military assault produced what Mr. Agaev called "an awakening of the nation, an emergence of national self-con-

True, he said, the Armenians had suffered a physical genocide at the hands of the Turks, "but we suffered a spiritual genocide' - and although he did not say so, he clearly meant at the hands of the Russians. But since what Mr. Agaev called "the cosmic tragedy for the Azeri people" of January 19/20. Russification is over for good. There should be Azerbaijani kindergartens in plenty for Mr. Bey's grandchildren — The

Banking the Unbankable — giving credit to the poor

By Donatus de Silva

SOME months ago, in Kinshasa, Zaire, a woman, impersonating the Zairean presiden's wife, rang up the manager of a local and requested a loan for the local currency equivalent of £4,000 to be immediately delivered to an unlisted post box number. The bank manager, perhaps sensing promotion, quickly delivered the

The next day, the manager told his head office what he had done and asked for reimbursement. After some discreet checking with the Palace, the head office informed him that there had been no such request. The hapless bank manager was severely reprimanded. A couple of weeks later. the woman was caught after a spending spree at a local market. Not everybody in the Third World can gain ready access to credit like that. In fact, most almost a billion — now live in abject poverty and would fail to get past the security guard at a bank entrance.

Throughout the Thrid World, the gap between rich and poor has widened. In Africa, this is currently true for far too many countries. In debt-ridden Latin America, there is more misery now than a decade ago. Although several countries in Asia have certainly made remarkable economic progress, mass poverty abounds in various large regions.

With no hope for their future, resentment is growing among the poor. During the last five years in Zambia, Egypt, Sudan, Venezeula, and Jordan, austerity measures imposed by the International Monetary Fund and implemented by national governments have resulted in sudden steep price rises in essential fooditems causing unrest, violence and death. If Third World leaders do not shed outdated development concepts, they may be in for a rougher time in the Ninetics.

The future for the Third World's poor is gloomy. But there are breaks in the storm clouds. These have been brought about by citizens' groups based in communities. Out of the bankruptcy and poverty of failed international and national development strategies, tenacious groups are emerging. Change and development are by passing venal bureaucracies and taking place at the local level

Sanking the Unbankable, a

new publication from the Panos

Institute, presents case studies of how small-scale credit schemes, initiated by community groups, are changing the lives of the neediest and introducing them into a cash economy.

The reports recount the lives and environments of poor families and groups in Asia, Africa and Latin America: former tenant farmers in Chile's semiarid coastal belt; shum dwellers in Cali, Colombia; a disadvantaged community in Bangladesh; mountain villagers in northern Pakistan; and villagers in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia.

The accounts are not a treatise on credit for the poor but lively, independent evaluations of relatively unknown community credit projects, by journalists who are nationals of the countries where the schemes are based. The schemes were also selected by the writers.

Packing,

Air Freight Forwarding,

Customs Clearance,

Door-to-door Service.

Ticketing and

Reservation needs,

please call:

AMIN KAWAR & SONS

Abdel Hamid Sharal Street

Shmeisani

P.O. Box 7806

Amman, Jordan

Tel. 604676, 604696

For all your:

The views are those of people involved in the projects: their achievements, frustrations and failures. Their experiences have interesting lessons for the deelopment community. From the 1950s, governments

Now you can find it everywhere,

has been closer to the people, and

set up several types of credit institutions to channel funds to small farmers and the landless. They included: development banks; commercial and rural banks; and cooperatives. But as the reports in the book show, these efforts hardly touched the poor. According to the Senegal report, for example, the elite working in the National Office of Cooperation and Development Aid milked the institution as an inexhaustible source of jobs for relatives and dependents.

Commercial banks have also

failed to bring change to the rural areas. Most people interviewed regarded banks as remote institutions. Banks were not interested

THE NAME

YOU TRUST

TOP QUALITY

HOUSEHOLD

in small loans. To save a rice crop, a person who needed around \$25 had no choice but to go to the local moneylender, who charged exorbitant rates -240 per cent per year in rural Sri Lanka.

Most of the schemes described deal with credit schemes for women. In these, women have had to overcome enormous traditional and social barriers to better themselves. The reports reveal how some men simply refused to allow their wives to obtain loans because they considered financial matters to be a male prerogative.

Many bankers and economists in the Third World feel that the poor are mable to save and do not have the capacity to manage thier finances adequately. The contrary is true: the reports show a high propensity to save among the poor if motivated to do so.

Most borrowers interviewed in

the book also had little difficulty

in repaying their loans. Repayment rates are flexible so that borrowers can repay money in small amounts.

Involving people at the earliest stages and group effort have been keys to success. In Pakistan, the women of the mountain villages could not save enough individually to qualify for loans large enough to run a profitable enterprise. But when they pooled their efforts — even though each started with one US cent per month — they were able to save a sizeable amount which made them eligible for a larger loan to set up a poultry farming project.

Banking the Unbankable confirms that people oriented nongovernmental organisations are important channels to the urban and rural poor. NGOs perform a number of tasks crucial to the poor, which government authorities or banks cannot do. For instance, NGO workers travel to

STUDIO HAIG

Develop your colour film at our shop and get:-

JUMBO photo

Free enlarge-

ment 20 x 30 cm

Professional Quality in

size 30% larger

1 Hour Service

remote regions, live with the villagers and interact closely with them. The common misconception

among governments and donor organisations that NGOs are only capable of dealing with small-scale efforts is clearly false. The reports provide evidence to the contrary: the Coolie Credit Fund in India reaches 160 villages; the Social Progress Cooperative in Colombia has a membership of 1,200 and a portfolio of over \$400,000. Banking the unbankable dis-

pels two other myths: that the poor are passive and unable to organise and handle money wisely; and that there are no mechanisms for channelling money to enterprising individuals or small groups. The schemes described resoundingly affirm the contrary.

The poor are willing. It is for the financial powers-that-be to show the will - Panos, features. | of empire. Here for the oil, and

The Regency Polace Hotel

ALALALI

Hatte Cuisine

Rooftop Restaurant

Nightly

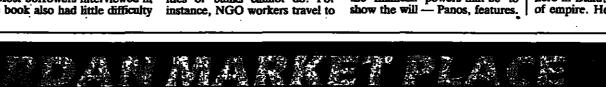
Oryx Band &

Oriental Belly-dancer

Nariman Abboud

For reservation

900-15



EASTERN PACKING AIR & SEA FREIGHT . TEL: 621 775 FAX: 656 270

TLX: 23 0 23 POB: 815 408 AMMAN-JÓRDAN

The First Class Hotel in

Amman - Tel. 668193 O Bov 9403 - Fax 602434 Telex 23888 DAROTL JO Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen

Amman that has a

Kitchenette in every

room...!

DAROTEL

عاراوتيل



1st Circle, Jabal Arnman, near Ahliyyah Girls School Take away is avallable Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 6:30-Midnight Tel. 838968



MANDARIN

Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese

cuisine in Amman. Chinese Flaming pot is available

Take away available

Open daily 12:00 - 15-30

18:00 - 23:30

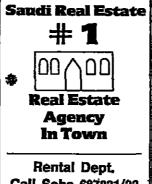
Wadi Sagra Road - near Traffic

Bridge

Amman, Jordan

Tel: 661922





Call Soha 687821/22

CHEN'S

CHINESE

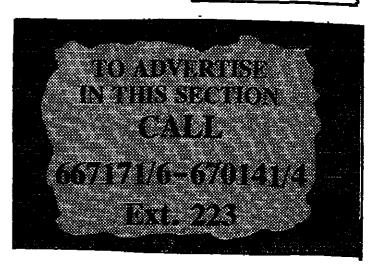
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042 Swefieh tel: 823891

RESTAURANT Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket Mongolian Barbeque for

Lunch Friday only Tel: 818214 Come and taste our specialities Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight







OPEC oil output stays high

LONDON (R) — OPEC failed to cut output in February despite weaker prices and more quotabusting by some members threatens acrimony in the group, industry sources said Friday.

A Reuter survey of February wellhead output by members of the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) reached an estimate of 23.1 million barrels per day (b/d). That compared with a revised 23.03 million for January.

While down from an eight-year peak of 24 million touched in December, market analysts say more cuts may be needed by the 13 exporters to stop a temporary

erosion of crude prices.

The monthly Reuter survey uses information from officials, industry and shipping sources.

There were some changes to individual output levels and continued quota violations which industry executives said will creat tension when oil ministers meet in Vienna on March 16 at a session of OPEC's market monitoring committee.

Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, shaved output to 5.55 million b/d, including a Neutral Zone shared with Kuwait.

Since it is apparently putting some oil into Caribbean tanker storage — not counted in its quota — it is probably now close to its mandatory quota of 5.34 million b/d

But Kuwait, steady at 1.9 million, and the United Arab Emirates at 2.05 million remained way above assigned levels.

Nigeria also took advantage of American winter weather drove the reference price of \$18 a strong Atlantic basin demand for up fuel demand. its "sweet" low-sulphur and gasoline-rich crudes to put a little extra on the market, going about 150,000 b/d above quota.

By contrast, Iran was struggling to sell its less-prized heavy, "sour" grades and was possibly as much as 400,000 b/d below quota - as much as Kuwait is above.

Industry sources report problems in making an early assessment of Iranian output which means that a Reuter estimate for it at 2.7 million b/d must be regarded as provisional.
"It is going up and down like a

yo-yo," a Western industry informant said. They are probably shooting for 2.8 (million BPD) but it would be surprising if they got there in the end."

Various Reuter sources estimated that Iraq, another exporter of "sour' crudes, was also slightly below quota.

Both Iraq and Iran may argue that they would be doing better and might at least expect slightly bigher prices if Kuwait, which is also a "sour" producer was not selling so much.

But Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah has said he is not bound to curb output so long as average prices exceeded a declared OPEC target of \$18 per barrel.

Kuwait's implied readiness to keep the rules if prices weaken may soon be tested since the average has now declined to near the \$18 mark, a drop of some \$2 from January when icy North

many analysts think there will be a further fall between now and the peak of holiday petrol consumption in the northern hemisphere summer unless OPEC makes further output cuts.

"OPEC production is exceeding, we believe, underlying demand by more than one million barrels per day," says Michael Rothman, a vice-president with Merrill Lynch.

Our sense is that a further price drop is likely, being mitigated, perhaps, by the interna-tional oil industry's greater willingness to hold higher levels of inventory," Rothman adds.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia appeared to be siding with Iraq against Kuwait in seeking higher oil prices as OPEC's "big three" began crucial talks in Kuwait Saturday, officials and oil analysts said.

Oil ministers of the three major Gulf Arab producers declined to talk to reporters as they went into private discussions on what OPEC should do on prices and output at a meeting of its 13 member states in Vienna on March 16.

Close coordination between the three last November brought about what was described then as the most credible pact in years by OPEC which has been solit in the past over political and economic differences.

Kuwait acknowledged last month it was overproducing to prevent prices from rising above

Japan current account plunges in January

TOKYO (R) - Japan's current noted. account dropped into deficit in January for the first time in six vears, but economists in Tokyo said the shortfall was unlikely to continue.

"The Saudis would like to see a

modest increase in prices but not

to a degree that would destabilise

the market," an informed Gulf

oil official told Reuters Saturday.

named but is close to Saudi think-

ing, said the kingdom "would like

to see prices reflecting the market

The meeting came after a flurry

in last month that OPEC

of contacts triggered by a propos-al by Iraqi President Saddam

should consider a target price

higher than the present \$18 a

"I think the Iraqis are asking to raise prices to \$20 a barrel," a Kuwait-based oil analyst told

Analysts said an increase in oil

"The Saudis don't have any

reason to resist \$20 dollars," the

Middle East manager of a major

Japanese company told Reuters

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait's Emir

Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Hus-

sein also voiced concern about

overproduction by some produc-

ers, which oil analysts said was

apparently directed against

In his letters to King Fahd of

by telephone.

prices would appeal to Saudi Ara-

bia, which is struggling to offset a budget deficit of \$6.7 billion for

The official, who declined to be

The current account, the broadest measure of trade in goods and services, was \$636 million in deficit after a \$2.51 billion surplus a year earlier, the finance ministry reported Friday.

Japan's previous deficit, of \$562 million, was recorded in January, 1984.

"The drop was largely due to seasonal factors," said Nobuyuki Saji, senior economist at Nikko Securities Research Centre." It's

nothing to get excited about."

The overall current surplus had narrowed steadily in calendar 1989, to \$56.98 billion from \$79.63 billion a year earlier.
Analysts said factors involved

in the decrease, such as the initial depressing effects of a weaker yen on trade, higher oil prices and slowing auto exports, will continue at least for the first quarter of 1990.

"But the deficit will not continue," said Yoshihiro Furukane, an economist at the Yamaichi Securities Research Institute. "Seasonally adjusted, it's still in

The seasonally adjusted figure for January was in surplus by some \$3 billion, economists

Japan's new year holidays in January and the lag in trade and outflow of funds due to travel overseas in the month usually contribute to a seasonal drop in the current-account balance, they

The holidays weaken exports. depressing the trade balance, while overseas travel makes a big dent in the balance of trade in invisibles, which include services.

There was also a drop in net long-term capital outflows in January, due to a sell-off of foreign bonds by Japanese investors," said Saii.

Long-term capital flows were in deficit by \$2.87 billion after a surplus of \$3.39 billion in Decem-

"But foreigners were also selling off Japanese stocks in anticipation of political uncertainty due. to the (Feb. 18 Japanese general) elections, so these counteracted each other somewhat," said Susumu Kato, a senior economist at Goldman, Sachs International in

Exports fell to \$18.16 billion from \$23.99 billion in December, but were little down from \$19.03 billion a year earlier.

plants by Japanese companies," said Kato.

"Exports will continue to decline as a result of overseas trans-

Accept an invitation with your attachment for important outside TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Both men and women will be very

helpful to you with your duties now. Your home can now be made

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A

very cooperative outsider will aid

you with your business affairs.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't let a demanding acquaint-ance from a distance keep you from close friends. A wonderful day to invite men and women friends into your home.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Entertain women friends with distinction in your home. A time for you and your attachment to organise your future more effi-

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your business affairs should be going along better than usually. Be sure now to be more than usually romantic your loved one.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) One of your best of times to make additions to or improve-

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY MARCH 4, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

HOROSCOPE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Now ments in your home. Be out on the you can have a really mixed up day town as much as possible with your if you allow yourself the luxury of floundering between home and family, emotional and intellectual LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) It's your turn now to entertain points of view and using force one moment and being timid the next. outside friends and show your

> contacts in recreations. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Don't hesitate to discuss any moot to difficult problems with friends. All kinds of interesting matters can now ocur at your

affection for them. You can join

with attachment and congenial

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A man friend who is fond of or admires you will make life more pleasant. Don't raise the dust at home over a situation you really do not understand.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Getting away from usual routines now will get cob-webs out of your mind. Invite into your home persons to whom you are especially friendly to.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Invite into your home and entertain the most influential persons you know. Get your practical affairs on a better basis with your

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Discuss family plans now with an outside who can help. Help your attachment to express his or ber talent that will help to bring you harmony.

Western business reports payments delays by USSR

owned Soviet trading companies have fallen behind on payments to Western suppliers and appear to be having difficulty gaining access to foreign exchange, Western bankers and diplomats said

The delays have raised widespread concern in Moscow's foreign business community but appear to be caused primarily by organisational problems following a recent overhaul of the companies rather than a crisis of creditworthiness.

There are delays. These companies appear to be having cash flow problems and the govern-ment is refusing to bail them out," said one Western diplomat, who asked not to be identified.

Diplomats and bankers say at least six foreign trade organisations, the main conduit for the Soviet Union's import and export business, have fallen behind on payments, with some overdue obligations dating back to

November. Foreign Trade Bank officials did not respond to a request to discuss foreign debt but one of the Soviet Union's most respected academic economists, Abel Aganbegyan, did confirm the delays in an interview with

"It is very bad. What else can we say... I know the bills are not being paid but I think it is a question of temporary difficulties," said Aganbegyan, rector of the government's Academy of the National Economy.

"It is just that we are very bad managers. The Soviet Union is a very rich country," he added.

The payments delays started to attract attention among Western suppliers several weeks ago and are now far longer than the odd hiccup of a few days that had been experienced in the past, bankers and diplomats said.

The problems have been aggravated by a deepening economic

such as Aganbegyan lay at the door of delays in implementing reforms to introduce the free market and dismantle controls of the command economy.

A key point of dispute is how. - and whether - to introduce a parallel rouble which would be convertible into hard currency. Western businessmen say the fear of not being able to swap roubles into currencies such as the dollar has put a dampener on many plans to enter into joint ventures.

The Soviet Union's foreign debt is relatively low given its huge wealth in natural resources and was estimated by the government newspapers Izvestia Friday at about 40 billion roubles - \$64 billion at official rates.

Several billion dollars of credit lines arranged by banks in major Western industrial nations for the Soviet Union in late 1988 have still not been fully taken up, illustrating an innate conservatism in its foreign borrowing

But as a lender the Soviet Union has also been experiencing the same problems as Western industrial nations, having to reschedule large portions of debt to the developing world.

The foreign trade organisations bave been given new freedom to run their affairs as part of President Mikhail Gorbachev's drive to break with the legacy of Stalinist central planning.
That has led some Western

bankers to suspect they are suffering from organisational problems and inexperience. In addition, Western bankers

believe some foreign trade organisations are now having to come up with their own hard currency rather than relying on allocations from a central authority. Some, they say, may have been simply

Soviet economists admit the opposing camps of pro- and anti-

way house" which has led to a confusion of responsibilities.

The government's economic stabilisation plan, unveiled by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov in December, was seen as a compromise. He said then the government was worried about its growing debt burden and wanted to cut imports.

But a top government planner, Andrei Orlov, deputy chairman of the State Commission for Economic Reform, told Reuters a new package to speed economic reform within the framework of the Ryzhkov plan would be unveiled in the next 10 days.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has rescheduled the equivalent of billions of dollars of debt owed by Poland and Cuba over the past three years and written off money lent to Vietnam and several other countries, official figures show.

The figures, in the government newspaper Izvestia, put the Soviet Union's outstanding lending to socialist and Third World countries at 85.8 billion roubles (\$143 billion).

There is no serious hope of receiving this debt very soon," said Izvestia in a commentary. "It is very likely that the figures under the heading of 'written off'

The Soviet Union rescheduled 3.2 billion roubles (\$5.33 billion) of Poland's debt between 1986 and 1989 — almost two thirds of the total 4.96 billion roubles (\$8.27 billion) owed by Warsaw. The second biggest figure, 2.4 billion roubles (\$4 billion), owed by Cuba, the Soviet Union's

largest creditor, was rescheduled in the same period.

As of Nov. 1, 1989, the date for which all the figures were compiled, Cuba owed the Soviet Union 15.5 billion roubles (\$25.8 billion), just over 50 per cent more than second-placed Mongo-

lia and Vietnam.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Feb. 24, '90 and ending Wednesday Feb. 28, '90. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Saturday Feb. 24, 30 and ending Wednesday Feb. Name of company	0. 28, 90. Number	Volume	Opening	s). Closing	Par
	of skares	of trade	price	price	value
Banking and financial insti	tution	S			
Industrial Development Bank	4902	16670	 3.410	3,370	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	8952	14099	1.590	1.550	1.000
Housing Bank	925 14650	2171 50305	2.350 3.380	2.350 3.380	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank,	_	30303	J.360 —	_	5.000
Bank of Jordan	309 1630	4531 416728	14.600 254.000	14.700 253.750	5.000 10.000
Jordan National Bank	10100	26127	2.600	2.590	1.000
Arab Banking Corporation Bank (Jordan) Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	10152 3037	· 22531 10619	1.750 3.390	2.240 3.590	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	93398	220930	2.300 -	2.380	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	4738	11525	2.430	2.430	1.000 2.000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	-		_	_	1.000
Insurance and reinsurance			•		İ
Middle East Insurance	_		<u>-</u>		1.000
Jordan French Insurance	29050 1228	51530 3065	1.740 2.500	1.760 , 2.500	1.000 1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	2675	. 3958	1.450	1.470	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance Holy Land Insurance	17070 3875	27657 10016	1.750 2.600	1.600 2.600	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	1000	1643	1.800	1.600	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	120 562	156 923	1.350 1.750	1.280 1.630	1.000
Jordan-Gulf insurance	750	1275	1.750	1.700	1.000
General Arabia Insurance National Ahliya Insurance	_	_			1.000 1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	_	Ξ	=	_	1.000
United Insurance Arab Eagle Insurance	_	_		· <u>-</u>	1.000 1.000
Universal Insurance	2050	. 2321	1.080	1.130	1.000
Services and industries	•			·	
General Investments	_	_	_	_	1.000
Inma for Investment and Financial Facilities Darco for Housing and Investment	4231	4273	1.010	1.010	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Agarco)	65221	58845	0.890	0.890	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	250450 282364	170448 225005	0.660 0.830	0.660 0.770	1.000 1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'ieerco	290640	186703	1.170	1.110	1.000
Infernational Contracting & Investment Jordanian Electric Power	6110	8434	1.400	1.370	1.000 1.000
Irbid District Electricity	100	80	0.800	0.800	1.000
Arab International Hotels Hotels and Tourism	60095	96210	1.600	1.590	1.000 1.000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	95600	73503	0.800	0.760	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office Jordan National Shipping Lines	43434	112327	2.570	2.580	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	_	_			1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	=	_	_	=	1.000
Jordan Dairy	21086 45136	35564 213696	1.680	1.660 4.780	1.000 1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Jordan Medical Corporation	40136 400	21.5696 416	4.960 1.100	4.780 1.040	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	179245 7085	574828 32591	3.170 4.600	3.200 4.600	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	18927	44874	2.360	2.350	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	3969 69500	34101 122006	8.650 2.030	8.560 2.030	1.000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	_	_		_	1.000
Aladdin Industries	11700 63049	37392 193125	3.160 2.980	3.200 3.060	1.000
Jordan Worsted Mills	_	— ·		. <u>-</u>	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	1400 8600	4055 26342	2.850 3.110	2.850 3.190	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	48100	89345	1.830	1.880	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment National Steel Industries	4310 15950	18631 42277	4.250 2.640	4.350 2.660	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	151150 4040	89829 6908	5.720 1.800	5.800 1.710	5,000 1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	1966	15954	8.120	8.120	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	QQ191	138258	1.320	1 270	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	98181 2231	138238	0.740	1.370 0.750	1.000
Arab Investment and International Trade	150448	136463	0.910	0.900	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO) Livestock and Poultry	1200 74160	4138 92838	3.500 1.310	3.440 1.280	1.000
Jordan Proes Manufacturing	2000	6540	3.270	3.270	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	106	1007	10.000	9_500	1.000 1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	161185	570818	3.340	3.610	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	_			-	1.000
- Ariana rankat (aming a revenue recent and	_		_	. —	7.000

THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates wedgies 9 Pierce 13 Afr., moun

system 15 Anklebor 15 Anklebones
16 Deli words
17 Verbalize
18 Ruer's
exclamation
19 Distinctive quality
20 Unbestable
21 Suspenseful
situation 24 Dog---26 Elbowed 27 Ran after 29 Kukla, - and 31 Visit often 32 Total 37 District 38 - Glory

platform 40 Roof bear 43 Oscar de 44 Pretentious 45 Put on 46 Pour out 50 Edam's kin 51 Dejected 54 Item for a in Osto 8 Kitchen item 9 Musial's 10 Uphili

riding habit? Zilch to Graf 11 Jibe 12 Panel 14 Clandestine 58 Diva's song 59 in a boring member 25 Hit — (ran Into trouble 27 Scorch 25 Mata 29 Madness Declines

DOWN

1.000 1.000 5.000

1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000

1.000

1.000

1.000

1.000

1.000

1.620 2.500

2.250 5.330 2.670 2.910 1.130 1.390 0.620 1.360

2.290 5.250 2.430 2.930 1.130 1.410 0.630

1 Hasty 2 Give — (sco 3 Leveled out

Yesterday's Puzzie Solved HIIGAGOWHUTESOX TEITTLES SPARKIE TRIS GASES ABOOS FACTS
ABOOS FACTS
ABBOS FACTS
SEATTUENARULES
BOT OURS SATES
NOPED ANGEL

42 Foreward 43 Regular t 45 John — 46 Brilliance - to Z

50 Telescope 52 Graceful horse 53 Out on a — 55 Touched



"I bought you a pack of gum so you can chew on something besides my ego!"

. Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. DICHE AND PROPERTY AND PERSONS IN ALLIC YUTPED SPEND MONEY LIKE WATER AND YOUR DEBTS WILL NEVER BE THIS. VIRQUE Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as sug-Jumbles: FELON BOWER WALRUS SMOKER

A wise man never does this— BLOWS HIS "KNOWS"

advances privatisation Germany

EAST BERLIN (AP) - East German authorities have taken the first step toward privatising state industries but set conditions that prevent a wholesale sell-off of major assets.

Huge factories now run by the central government are to be offered to East German investors on March 15. However, sales of land and fixed assets to foreign buyers will be prohibited, apparently to prevent a buyout by powerful West German manufac-

The conversion to a more Westernised style of industrial management is set to begin only three days before free elections. The new parliament after the March 18 vote could choose to revise the plans by the interim government of communist premier Hans Modrow.

The privatisation plan addresses some of the concerns of West Germans seeking to merge the two economies, although it stops short of the full-scale conversion to market principles sought by

West German industrialists. The communist-led government has repeatedly expressed fear of being bought out by weal-thy West German neighbours.

Wolfgang Krause, the economic reform commissioner, told reporters that the assets to remain in public ownership would be under the control of parliament. Lawmakers could make exceptions to the sales restrictions if individual transactions are deemed to be to the public's

benefit, he said.

Krause said other details of the conversion remained to be settled by the new government to be chosen after the vote.

Government spokesman Wolfgang Meyer said the interim step toward privatisation would give industry managers more autonomy while hindering "arbitrary sale of assets and property."

East Germany's economy has ground to a halt in recent weeks as the nation awaits the outcome of its first democratic balloting. The lack of detail offered on the privatisation plan likely reflects the interim leaders' hesitance to make major changes in direction without a public man-

The current parliament has re-

ported that 35 political parties

have registered to run candidates

in the elections. Parliament secretariat chief Herbert Kelle told the Communist Party newspaper Neues Deutschland that 35 parties had registered for the elections, but that

Hans-Andreas Schoenfeldt, spokesman for the election commission, told reporters that a final list of parties and candidates would not be released until

Orient Dry Batteries Factory

National Cable & Wire Manufacturing

Jordan Precast Concrete Industry

Jordan Spinning & Weaving

Jordan Cement Factories

Jordan Glass Industries

National Quarry

Woolen Industries

no candidate lists were available

March 9. AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, March 3, 1990 Central Bank official rates

Prench franc 675.0 1105.2 1111.8 390.4 392.7

Inpanete yen (for 100)
Dutch guilder
Swedish crown
Insian lira (for 100)
Belgian franc (for 10) 446.6 346.6 109.3 53.0 188.1

هلذا صد الأحل

63484

357675

273813

104517 25680

5,466,200

73978

40399

2,809,851

UAE, Iraq draw

KUWAIT (R) — Iraq, playing with 10 men in the second half, held World Cup finalists United Arab Emirates (UAE) to a 2-2 draw Saturday in a Gulf Cup soccer match in Kuwait.

It was the third draw in three games for UAE, who saw victory statched from their grasp two minutes from the end when Saad Oais scored the equaliser from the penalty spot.

m i dece ii m edece de m edece de m edece de m edece

Can Mary

- 1/2

UAE, who have also drawn with Oman and Qatar, started energetically and busy midfielder Nasser Khamis rattled the cross bar in the third minute.

Two minutes later he opened the scoring with a header into the back of the Iraqi net and the UAE appeared on their way to giving a display worthy of their slot in Italy.

But Iraq shrugged off the shock of the early goal and got one back in the 24th minute when Ahmad Radhi pounced on a loose ball just outside the area and swivelled round to drill the ball into the corner of the net.

UAE went ahead again in the final minute of the first half when defender Adnan Darjal, a Mexico World Cup veteran, brought down Ali Thani in the box and the referee ordered a penalty.

Ali Thani made no mistake with the shot and to compound Iraq's problems the referee showed Darjal the red card for

Despite the handicap, Iraq dominated the second half and created more chances than their rivals. Natiq Hashim was unlucky not to grab the equaliser in the 78th minute when his shot hit the woodwork.

But two minutes from the final whistle UAE defender Khalil Ghanem brought down Ahmed Radhi in the box, and Qais sent goalkeeper Mohsin Mussabah one way while the ball went the

The result put Iraq at the head of the table in the six-nation tournament along with Kuwait. Both have four points from three

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Gilbert to play for U.S. Davis Cup

CHICAGO (AP) - Brad Gilbert, the number four ranked player in the world, will represent the United States against Czechoslovakia in Davis Cup play the week of March 26, it was announced Friday. Gilbert's selection to the team will force him to withdraw from Volvo Tennis Chicago, March 27 through April. Gilbert helped the U.S. Davis Cup team to victory over Mexico with two victories at matches in San Diego in January.

Another world best in backstroke

SASKATOON, Saskatchewan (R) — Canadian Mark Tewksbury set his second world best in as many days when he lowered the short-course standard in the 50-metre backstroke at Canada's national swimming championships Friday. Tewksbury posted a time of 25.06 seconds beating the previous mark of 25.10 set less than three weeks ago by Daischi Suzuki of Japan. On Thursday, the lanky Canadian set a world best of 53.69 seconds in the 100-metre backstroke. Tewksbury said he almost lost the 50metre record in the final's few metres. "The 50 metres is just go, go, go, all the way," Tewksbury said after the race. "I wasn't sure I could get the record, but I thought I had a goopd shot.

GOREN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: The bidding has proceeded: South West North East South West 1 # Pass Pass

A .- A borderline hand. We would be inclined to take a slightly conser-vative action and rebid only two diamonds, but with so many playing tricks we won't quibble with a jump to three diamonds. Switch our major-suit holdings and we'd definite-

0.2-Neither vulnerable, as South

The bidding has proceeded: West Pass North East 1 Pass What action do you take? A .- This depends on your no trump

range. If you are playing 15-17 point no trumps, inviting game is fraught with danger-opposite a minimum, you could be too high. If your range is 16-18, you are just worth a move, and the only bid to consider is a raise to two no-trump.

0.3-Neither vulnerable, as South

Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond? A - in these days of convenient minor-suit opening bids, you should try to avoid raising partner's minor unless you have five-card support. Here, both your strength and distribution can be relayed to partner with a one no-trump response.

Q.4-East-West vulnerable, as

♦OJ103 ♥AK ≎AKO32 ♠K8

What is your opening bid? A.--You're not quite good enough for a demand bid in a suit, but too strong for one diamond. The solution is to open two no trump if your suit is surely worth an extra point), or two clubs followed by two no trump if that's the way you show a 23-24 HCP hand.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you bold: ◆J7 ▽KQJ763 ◇K108 ◆Q3 The bidding has proceeded:

East South West Pass 1 7 Pass Pass ? North What do you bid now? A.—Another close decision between an invitational jump to three hearts or going all the way to game. We would upgrade the queen in part-ner's suit and, since North has at

least two hearts on this auction, bid an aggressive four hearts. Three no trump is a close second choice, but the possible spade weakness makes the suit contract preferable.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you **★AK6** ▽ 10 ◇ K93 **★** OJ9643 The bidding has proceeded: West North East 1 4 Pass

What do you bid now? A.—Take away one of your spade honors and you would not have opened the bidding. Therefore, there is no need for any drastic action at this stage. Just prefer to two spades. If your combined holding is enough for game, partner must have the values for another bid.

Tel: 625155

South you hold:

King congratulated on air race achievement

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a cable from French Ambassador to Jordan Dennis Bouchard conveying the congratulations of the French government for the victory Sagr Al Urdun (Falcon of Iordan) attained in the Malaysia International air race 1990. Bouchard said that this victory is something the Jordanian people should be proud of.

The three-member crew of Sagr Al Urdun, held a press conference in Amman Saturday about their trip from Paris to the Far East and back to the French

Captain Eric Ledger, his assistant Rakan Nasser and photo-

grapher Mazen Fanous described the race as "a very strong com-petition." "We competed with 14 aircrafts from the United Arab Emirates, France, Britain, Belgium and Malaysia, along a 24,000 kilometre route, considered the longest trip ever contested in an international race," the crew members said. They paid tribute to His Majes-

ty King Hussein for encouraging them to take part in the competition which, they said, has helped to boost Jordan's image as a tourist place. The crews of the participating aircrafts were taken on a tour of archaeological sites during their stay in Jordan before the last leg of the trip between Amman and Paris.

Algeria trounces Nigeria

ALGIERS (R) — Rabah Madjer from Cherif Oudjani set up Mad-and Djamel Menad scored two jer, but they were unable to score goals apiece to lead Algeria to an emphatic 5-1 victory over Nigeria in the opening match of the 17th African Nations Cup soccer tournament Friday.

Algeria, hampered by heavy winds, went ahead in the 35th minute when an excellent pass

jer, but they were unable to score again before the interval.

Madjer netted his second goal in the 59th minute, unleashing an Algerian goal spree. Menad scored in the 69th and 72nd minutes in quick counter-attacks with Madier.

Brazilian team chief wants Havelange proposal tried

SAO PAULO (R) - Brazilian national soccer coach Sebastiao Lazaroni said a proposal to divide matches into 25-minute quarters should be tried to see if the idea would work in practice.

Lazaroni was quoted in Brazilian newspapers Friday as saying he favoured the proposal, championed by International Football Federation (FIFA) President Joao Havelange, which would depart from the traditional format of two 45-minute halves.

Lazaroni said the idea, aimed at allowing more television commercials and aired by fellow Brazilian Havelange in last Sunday's O Globo newspaper, could bring "a new dynamic" into the sport.

Lazaroni suggested that the idea be tried out on junior teams. "It is necessary to test the theory in practice to evaluate the reactions of those involved in a soccer match from players to fans," he

Havelange told O Globo the notion of 25-minute quarters had been around for nearly 20 years. He said he had originally resisted it, feeling the time was not ripe. But with the evolution of time, experience and needs, I think it would be worthwhile

studying, examining and authorising a test," he said.

O Globo quoted him as saying he believed the changes would already be in place for the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Agassi scores comeback victory

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (R) -American Andre Agassi had a shaky start but still came through a winner in a round robin competition at the \$300,000 Scott-

sdale Open Friday.
Agassi, the highest ranked player in the eight-man exhibition, beat fellow American Tim Mayotte 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 after struggling to overcome a series of backhand errors.

Earlier, Emilio Sanchez of Spain consolidated his position as leader in the points standings with a 6-3, 2-6, 6-1 win over American Pete Sampras. Sanchez is the only player not to have lost a match. In a later match, Jay Berger defeated fellow American Aaron Krickstein 6-4, 1-6, 6-2.

Agassi, ranked six, fell behind quickly in the first set against the eight ranked Mayotte, as the bigserving American attacked Agassi's error-prone backhand to win the set 6-2.

But at 2-2 in the second set. Agassi suddenly went into high gear as Mayotte's serve failed him at crucial moments.

Mayotte double-faulted to fall behind 4-2 and Agassi embarked on a streak which saw him win eight of nine straight games, taking the second set 6-3 and forging 4-0 lead in the third.

Agassi pounced on Mayotte's serve, blasting returns and passing shots before Mayotte fought back briefly to 5-2. But Agassi took the match 6-2 on his favourite shot, a forehand

"The further the match went on, the more comfortable I felt," Agassi said. "I started playing much more aggressively. When I got a short ball, I wasn't scared to do something with it." Mayotte admitted his errors

cost him dearly. "I was looking for a way to hurt him but I was just making too many errors," Mayotte said. English soccer:

Gillespie puts Liverpool ahead

LONDON (R) - Defender Gary the result Liverpool needed with 15 games, scored again in the 75th Gillespie returned from injury and made amends for mistakes by his Liverpool team mates to put the club back at the top of the English first division with a late goal against Milwall Saturday.

But Liverpool were prepared for a short reign. Championship rivals Aston Villa, just one point behind, were playing at Coventry in a Sunday match and hoped to snatch back the lead.

Liverpool began Saturday with confident expectations of easily beating struggling Milwall and extending their unbeaten run to 17 matches.

But things did not go all their own way against the heavily de-fensive London side.

England striker Peter Beardsley shot wide from a penalty only two minutes into the match, John Barnes hit the bar, and both Welsh international Ian Rush and Scot Steve Nicol had goals disallowed.

It was left to Gillespie to get

just seven minutes to play. The Scot, playing his first

match for three months after a angle. hamstring injury, scored with a header from a Beardsley corner. Champions Arsenal saw their hopes of retaining the title wither when they suffered their ninth

away defeat of the season, 2-0 to London rivals Queen's Park Ran-Former England midfielder Ray Wilkins put Rangers ahead

against the run of play in the 56th minute. The mood turned ugly when Arsenal, knocked out of the En-

glish F.A. Cup by Rangers in the fourth round, appealed in vain for a penalty, saying central de-fender Alan McDonald had handled the ball. Two of the visiting players were booked after arguments

with referee Roger Milford who was given a police escort off the pitch at the end of the match. Rangers, beaten only once in

minute when Roy Wegerle drove home the ball from an awkward

Arsenal, who had two more players booked before the match was over, are now 10 points behind Liverpool, and have dropped a place to fourth, level on points with third-placed Nottingham Forest who have a better goal difference.

But the champions still have home matches to come with both the leaders and Aston Villa.

Nottingham Forest beat relegation-threatened Manchester City 1-0. but City players protested that Forest midfielder Gary Crosby had knocked the ball out of goalkeeper Andy Dibble's hands before shooting into the empty

Veteran midfielder Peter Reid had to steer City manager Howard Kendall away from a confrontation with the referee as the visiting side tried to get the goal

Navratilova has easy win to advance in tournament

(AP) — With a dominating serve and ranging all over the court, Martina Navratilova raced past Nathalie Herreman Friday to move into the semifinals of the Virginia Slims of Indian Wells.

Navratilova needed only 47 minutes to crush her French opponent, a qualifier, 6-2, 6-1, and lost just seven points on her serve the entire match. One of the points she lost came when, ranging far behind the baseline, she accidentally hit a linesman with her racket while trying to chase down a shot.

"I was very upset," she said. "I thought I had hit the fence. then I realised I had hit him. He had a big lump on his head."

The top-seeded Navratilova is unbeaten this year, having won tournaments in Chicago and Washington, D.C.. In the semifinals, she will face

vessels.

INDIAN WELLS, California Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria, who defeated Merredith McGrath 6-1, 6-2 in their quarterfinal match. The other semifinal pits third-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, a 6-4, 6-3 winner over Isabelle Demongeot of France, against 11th-seeded

Amy Frazier, who beat number eight Rosalyn Fairbank 6-2, 6-3. "I returned service badly on those games she won," Navratilova said after her victory. "I was moving around well and playing very solid."

Maleeva, the fifth seed in the tournament at Hyatt Grand Champions, also had an easy time of it in her quarterfinal. Sukova, meanwhile, had to work for her victory over Demongeot.

After just one service break in

the first set. Sukova won the match by winning the last two

"The score was better than the



Martina Navratilova

day before," said Sukova, who was taken to three sets in each of her two earlier matches in the tournament.

Frazier, 17, controlled her match against Fairbank. "I think I'm playing good," Frazier said. "Maybe I'm gaining more confidence.

Barcelona prepares for 1992 Olympics

By Clare Pedrick

BARCELONA — The Olympic stadium has been ready for six months now. The cycling arena is finished. So, too, are the two swimming pools and the gymna-sium. The hotel rooms for the 40,000 VIPs, judges and officials have been booked and inspected, even down to the quality of the orange juice and the number of newspapers to be offered each

morning. In the shops along the Rambla, Barcelona's main thoroughfare, "Cobi," the Olympic Games mascot officially described as "a friendly dog of avant-garde design," is everywhere to be seen, smiling out from mugs, T-shirts, badges and cigarette lighters and on posters showing him rowing, playing tennis, horseback riding and, in a suitably oriental ver-

sion, dressed for a round of judo. With well over two years to go before the arrival of the Olympic torch in the Montjuich stadium, the mood in Barcelona is decidedly smug. "The Spanish have a reputa-

tion for doing things at the last minute, but that's not the case this time," said Luis Serrano, spokesman for the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee. "We wanted to be able to contemplate all the problems well ahead of time. We're determined not to be caught out in 1992."

The precision with which preparations are going ahead is certainly more Prussian than Mediterranean in style. Each project has been included in a master plan, and target dates are reviewed every six months. At last tions and, of course, sports facilicount at the end of 1989, more ties. "The games will have a than 85 per cent of the plans were tremendous impact on the quality on or ahead of schedule.

due to be completed by the sum- got new phone lines, new hotels, mer of 1991, and between now tennis courts and a new airport ing ceremony on July 25, 1992, 12 different peseta." world championships will be held on the new sites as a dress rehearsal for the games them-"The Spanish mentality, and

especially the business mentality, has changed tremendously over the past 10 years," said Serrano. These days we are much more efficient, even more so in Barcelona, which is nearer to northern Europe than other parts of

Barcelona is going through a golden era right now. It is, as officials of the Olympic Committee never tire of pointing out, a city very much in vogue, partly because of its rich cultural heritage — the city of Picasso, Miro, Dali and Gaudi - and partly because it is the brightest star in the Spanish firmament at a time when Spain can do no wrong.

Barcelona has the highest growth rate in Spain, which in turn has the highest growth rate in Europe. Barcelona also has the country's lowest unemployment figures and a gross domestic product that is 20 per cent higher than the rest of Spain. Winning the bid for the Olympic Games has meant an additional 76,000 new jobs annually for the residents of Barcelona. It has also meants vast improvement in terms of new roads, communica-

of life of the people of Barcelo-All of the sports facilities are na," said Serrano. "They have terminal, all without spending a

> As far as investment is concerned. Barcelona will end up making a profit of some 500 million pesetas (\$4.1 million) after all the bills have been paid. Thanks to its long tradition as a sports venue — in the past decade it has hosted the 1982 World Cup soccer championships, the 1984 World Cycling championships and in May 1989 the finals of the European Soccer championship tournament — 70 per cent of the facilities for the Olympics already exist, needing only expansion or renovation for the 1992 games.

The Olympic Stadium, located on the Montjuich, will be the starting point for the marathon as well as the setting for the opening and closing ceremonies. It was originally built in 1929 for Barcelona's International Exhibition. A team of Italian and Spanish architects has redesigned the interior of the stadium while pre-

serving the original facade. Television rights will bring in \$618 million. This is a third of the total income from the games, which will be the most widely covered in the history of the Olympics. The American NBC network is paying a record \$416 million for exclusive American broadcast rights. Australia's Channel 7 will pay \$33.75 million,

\$62.5 for exclusive rights in Japan.

Sponsorship pledges have also broken all previous records. Pledges so far amount to \$290 million, already more than in Seoul or Los Angeles. A crucial part of the Barcelona

strategy has been to study the successes and failures of the most recent Olympic host countries. A team from the Spanish Olympic Committee traveled to Los Angeles during the 1984 games — the year in which the Barcelona Olympic bid was accepted -- and to Calgary for the 1988 Winter Olympics. A 90-member delegation, led by Barcelona's Mayor Pasqual Maragall, went to South Korea to examine the organisation of the Seoul games. "Of course, every city that

hosts the Olympics is completely different, in terms of its people, its infrastructure and its special problems," said Serrano. "Even so, we have learned a great deal from the experience of other countries. For example, from Calgary we learned a lot about how to organise security."

Security will certainly be one of the main headaches for organisers of the 1992 Olympics. Barcelona's Olympic Village, which will house the 15,000 participat-

CAR AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

FOR SALE

Mercedes Benz 200, 1982, duty unpaid, excellent condition.

Tel: 671526 - Office - 825832 - Home

ITT TV. & video 27 inches 15 systems.

almost four times the figure it ing athletes, has been described paid for the 1988 Seoul games. as the prettiest ever, built along The Canadian network CTV has the seafront on what was once an signed an agreement worth \$16.5 ugly industrial site. It could also, million, and the European officials admit, prove to be the Broadcasting Union will pay \$90 most difficult to police. "It's the million. A pool of Japanese net- only one ever to be built by the works, led by NHK, will pay sea and of course, this will pose special problems," Serrano said. "Even so, we are optimistic that our precautious will prove up to the test. There will be around 15,000 police drafted in from all over Spain, and the coast will be patrolled by frogmen and military

> The threat from Spain's own active terrorist groups would seem to be small. Olympic officials claim that both the Basque group ETA and the Catalonian separatist organisation Terra Lliure have pledged not to sabotage the event. "These groups realise that the games have so much popular support that it would be counterproductive to try to disrupt them," Serrano One problem that even the

super-organised Barcelonans have not been able to solve is the lack of accommodation for tourists coming to watch the games. With just 1.7 million residents, Barcelona is a relatively small city, and despite 22 new hotels and the chartering of six cruise liners to be used as floating hotels, almost all of the more than 400,000 visitors expected will have to find rooms outside

"The problem is that all the bed space inside Barcelona itself

INTERNATIONAL CHARITY ORGANISATION

Experience of a minimum of five years in office management.

Perfect written and spoken Arabic, English and French.

Applications to be sent to: P.O. Box 926405, Amman -

is looking for an Executive Secretary

Candidate must have the following qualification:

Working experience with computers.

Good knowledge of accounting.

will be taken up by members of the Olympic Committee. VIPs. guests from the sponsoring companies, journalists and the like." said Serrano. "Almost everyone else will have to sleep in one of the satellite towns outside Barcelong or in the nearby coastal resorts along the Costa Brava and the Costa Dorada."

On the international front. Spain's uncontroversial profile should result in a higher-thanaverage turnout from participating nations, Serrano asserted. "The Moscow, Los Angeles and Seoul games were all affected by boycotts in one form or another, but Spain has no political enemies, so we're hoping this will be one of the best-attended Olympics for a long time." World News Link



please cali

Abdoun Real Estate

PREVIOUSLY

Wael Real Estate

Tel: 685342, 682097

Cinema RAINBOW

OVER BOARD



Tel: 677420

Gene Hackman Danny Glover...



Omar Al Sharif and **Murvat Amin**

ALARAGOUZ (Arabic) Performances: 3:15, 5:15, 8:15, 10:15 Cinema

NUOUM

Omar Ai Sharif and **Murvat Amin**

(Arabic)

Grundig stereo

Bed set
 Other items.

Tel: 675571



Cinema

PLAZA

Tel: 699238

BILOXI **BLUES**



Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

* _____

-

CONCORD



Tel: 634144 PHILADELPHIA

to work as a driver for a family in Jordan.

SEEKING A JOB

A 26-year-old man with good command of English wants

If interested please write to Waild S. Ahmad: P.O. Box 510858 - Amman.

in



in **AL ARAGOUZ**

Personnances: 3:30,6:30, 8:30, 10:30 Friday & Sanday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Team completes

PARIS (AP) — The six members

of an international expedition ar-

rived Saturday at a Soviet base on

Antarctica's eastern coast, com-

pleting the first unmechanised

crossing of the forbidding conti-

nent. "I'm feeling great happiness and great relief at the end of

seven difficult months," co-lead-

er Jean-Louis Etienne of France

said in a live interview on French

television moments after the

arrival just after 1 p.m. Paris time

(1200 GMT). The arrival ended a

seven-month, 6,115-kilometre

trek by ski and dogsled that

risked turning to tragedy at the end. Keizo Funatsu of Japan dis-

appeared in a blizzard for 11

hours before being found safe and in good condition by his worried fellow adventurers Fri-

day morning. The television images showed the final steps of the

expedition live. The men in their bright red and blue suits stood

out against the white snow as they

Antarctic trek

Sandinistas, contras hold key to Nicaragua transition of power

MANAGUA (R) — International diplomatic efforts are under way to ensure a peaceful transition of power in Nicaragua amid fears that rival Sandinista and contra forces may not be prepared to lay down

After a bloody eight-year war, the U.S.-backed contra rebels appear reluctant to heed calls and simply disband now that left-wing President Daniel Ortega has been swept from power.

A question mark also hangs over many of Ortega's loyal Sandinistas who fear a new government under conservative Violeta Chamorro will set about dismantling their 11-year Socialist revolution.

Fears of violence have trig-gered an intense round of diplomacy to smooth the change of power following Ortega's surprise defeat at the ballot box last Sunday.

U.S. special envoy Harry Shlaudeman has gone to Honduras to try to convince

battle has been won and now is the time to dump arms and come home peacefully.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has invited Defence Minister Humberto Ortega for talks in Caracas to discuss the explosive problems arising from the Sandinistas handing over power to an opposition alliance that many of them consider enemies and traitors.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias is reported to be pressing for a meeting of Central American presidents on the issue before April 25 when the Sandinistas surrender the reins of power to Chamorro and her National Opposition Union (UNO).
President Ortega has accepted

thousands of contras that the a future opposition role for the

He urged North Korea to stop

'provocative acts of aggression'

and help pursue ways of reducing

tensions on the divided Korean

South Korea previously has announced tunnels allegedly dug

by North Korea across the border

Two were reportedly disco-

vered near the truce village of

Panmunjom on the western front-

line, 56 kilometres north of

A third tunnel found in 1978

near Panamunjom was dug

through granite 150 metres below

the surface and extends 435

metres into South Korean terri-

tory across the border. It has

It too is large enough for three

fully armed soldiers to run

through side-by-side, and can

pass a regiment-size force in an

been open to the public.

hour, officials said.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

HAVANA (R) - The wife and three daughters of ousted

Panamanian military strongman General Manuel Noriega arrived in Cuba after being granted safe passage out of Panama. Felicidad

Sieiro, her daughters Thais, Lorena and Sandra, and a six-month-

old grandson arrived at Havana airport on a regular Cubana flight

from Panama. Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Miguel Brugueras was at the airport to greet them although the reception was

low-key. Earlier in Panama City, Dominican Ambassador Hector

Pereira said Sieiro, the three daughters and the infant had been

granted political asylum in the Dominican Republic. "They are

going to my country as political refugees," he said. The members

of Noriega's family were among a group of Panamanians who took refuge in the Cuban embassy in Panama City shortly after

CENTRALIA, Illinois (AP) - A mild earthquake shook people awake early Friday, generating dozens of calls to authorities but no reports of damage or serious injuries. The tremd 3.4 on the

Richter Scale, said Waverly Person, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey's National Earthquake Information Centre in

Golden, Colorado. A quake of magnitude 3.5 on the Richter

Scale can cause slight damage. Meanwhile, a wide area of southern California rolled Friday with another aftershock of

Wednesday's big earthquake, triggering a rockslide on a mountain road but no reports of significant damage or injuries.

Taiwan's party split over presidential race

TAIPEI (AP) - The popular head of Taiwan's judiciary has

refused to rule out a challenge to President Lee Teng-Hui in this

month's presidential election, a top official confirmed Saturday. Lee met with judiciary chief Lin Yang-Kang at the presidential

office Friday to try and patch up differences, Communications

Minister Chang Chien-Pang told reporters. But Lin responded

that he could not stop members of the Electoral College from

supporting him against Lee for president if they chose to take such

action, Chang said. The meeting between the two members of the

ruling Nationalist Party is the clearest sign yet that a political crisis

BANGKOK (R) — Some 200 Muslims burned an effigy of British

writer Salman Rushdie in southern Thailand to protest against the

translation into Japanese of his book the Satanic Verses, the

Bangkok Post said Saturday. The protesters also set fire to flags of

the United States, Britain, Japan and Israel in front of the main mosque in Yala, a mainly Muslim town some 800 kilometres south

of Bangkok, during Friday's protest, the newspaper said. Waving

pictures of the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini

and banners with Arabic slogans, the protesters condemned

PEKING (R) - Peking's hardline mayor said China was still under

threat from enemies of socialism and he called for stern measures

to ensure "stability" despite the lifting of martial law in January.

In a tough speech Saturday to the Peking People's Congress, the

city assembly, Mayor Chen Xitong said stability was China's main

goal and he called for a strengthening of the police and secret

security apparatus. "The permicious influence of bourgeois

liberalism has not been completely dispelled by the quelling of the turnoil and the end of martial law," he told the first meeting of

the congress since troops crushed a pro-democracy movement

Peking mayor reaffirms hard line

is looming over the electoral college vote.

Japan for translating the novel.

Thai Muslims burn Rushdie in effigy

Small quake shakes southern Illinois

Noriega's family arrives in Cuba

in 1974, 1975 and 1978.

peninsula.

Sandinistas. A peaceful transmition would mark the first time that a left-wing revolutionary movement has handed over power won through the bullet after being defeated by the ballot.

Chamorro, a conservative newspaper publisher, is inheriting a Sandinista-controlled army fiercely loayl to Ortega and hostile to her incoming administra-

On top of that, she has made it clear she wants the removal of Humberto Ortega, the defeated president's elder brother.

UNO has accused some Sandinista leaders of inciting mobs to attack and intimidate. "Arms of war are being distributed among fanatics of the Sandinista Party, endangering social stability in our country," it said in a statement

ing of the contras, based in Honduras, a condition for a peaceful handover. Chamorro has urged them to lay down their arms and

Ortega has made the disband-

take part in rebuilding Nicaragua But the contras have ignored previous calls to disband - and may be reluctant to do so this time without something in return.

The United States says military pressure from the contras forced the Sandinistas to accept internationally-supervised elections. But neither Washington nor

Chamorro appears willing to give

Diplomats close to the U.S.contra talks in honduras say the U.S. envoy bluntly told the rebels there was nothing to negotiate apart from demobilisation proce-

the rebels anything now.

Chamorro, who failed to impart a single word of credit to the contras after winning the elections, refused to reply to two letters from the contra leadership requesting a meeting.

Now, the contras want something in return," said a Latin American diplomat. "They want a reward, from the Americans or

Gorbachev may be turning into dictator, Yeltsin says

LONDON (R) — Radical Soviet politician Boris Yeltsin has said that Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev showed signs of turning into a dictator and he called for a stronger parliament to curb presidential power.

Teltsin, one of Gorbachev's fiercest critics, said in an interview with British television that the Soviet leader had become too fond of power and could not tolerate criticism.

But Yeltsin said Gorbachev could lost power within the year if his perestroika restructuring programme did not bring an improvement in Soviet living stan-

"In one year, without decisive steps, perestroika will suffocate and along with it Gorbachev because people are approaching a critical point. With no improvemeut it will explode like Eastern Europe," Yeltsin tol Channel Four news. Yeltsin told Britain's

loves power and cannot stand people who contradict him. He either fires them or avoids having anything to do with them."

tary support to become the Soviet Union's first executive president with sweeping powers which en-able him to declare martial law and appoint or remove the prime minister and other officials.

Yeltsin said the power of the Soviet legislature should be strengthened accordingly "so we can limit the president's power, oust him, bring him to account."
In a later interview with the

British Broacasting Authority Yeltsin said Soviet history proved that a concentration of power was a recipe for dictatorship and he warned that if checks were not in place the president "could become a Stalin or almost."

But yeltsin said there was a chance he might consider stand-ing against Gorbachev for the presidency "if the conditions are

Yeltsin was sacked as Moscow Communist Party chief in 1987 for criticising the party leadership over the pace of reform and at the time accused Gorbachev of trying to purge him from political life. He won a seat in elections to the new-style Soviet parliament last

Union has said it would withdraw all its troops from Mongolia by 1992, part of an accelerating effort to trim its military budget and reduce its armed forces abroad.

The pullback will affect an estimated 60,000 troops in the sparsely populated country on the Chinese border and is apparently aimed at normalising relations with Peking.

Mongolia, long considered a Soviet client state, sided with Moscow in the late 1950s when relations between the Soviet Union and China turned sour. But recent Sino-Soviet rapprochement has spilled over to Mongolia and greatly reduced tensions

along the border.
Friday's announcement, carried by the Soviet News Agency TASS, said the main Soviet combat units would be removed in 1991, and remaining equipment and support units would be with-

Soviet troops to pull out of Mongolia

Previously, the Soviets had said they would remove about threequarters of their troops and all of their aircraft from Mongolia, which has a population of about 2 million people in a territory the size of Western Europe.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies yearbook for 1989-90 estimated the Soviets had 60,000 troops in Mongolia, including one army headquarters unit, two tank divisions and two motorised rifle

The Soviet Union announced in December that it had a total of 627,500 troops abroad and would like to bring them home by the year 2000. However, Soviet officials have said the pullouts would not be unilateral and would depend on negotiations with other nations.

Earlier last year, the Soviets withdrew approximately 100,000 troops from Afghanistan after a President Christos Sartzetakis got

Socialists received 128 votes and

Ioannis Alevras backed by the

ity. An all-party government failed to agree on how to solve 21 from the Communist-dominated coalition of the left and progress. Three deputies were absent from the roll call. The conservatives control 148

president would be deadlocked. seats, the Socialists 128 and the House Speaker Athanasios Communists, 21. Three places be-Tsaldaris said that parliament will be dissolved March 12 so that long to independents. Candidates for the five-year

candidates could prepare their presidential term, needed 200 votes in the first two ballots and New Democracy, the country's largest political group, abstained 180 in the third.

Last year's elections in June from the balloting as it did in the and November resulted in no one previous rounds.

Army attacks main Khmer Rouge base

namese forces in 1979 and are

fighting to win back power. Vietnam, which backs the Ph-

nom Penh government, says it withdrew all its forces last

electoral campaign.

Greece heads for new elections

as MPs fail to elect president

party winning an absolute major-

the country's growing financial crisis and agreed to hold another

general election on April 8, anti-

cipating that the vote for a new

BANKOK (R) — Guerrillas were locked in heavy fighting with Vietnam-supported government troops as Phnom Penh fought to seize the Khmer Rouge's main Cambodian base in the west of the country, guernila radio broadcasts said Saturday.

ATHENS (AP) — Greece

headed for new crucial general

elections after parliament failed

in its final attempt Saturday to

None of the candidates for the

mostly ceremonial presidential

post received the necessary 180

votes. It was the third and final

round of ballotting by the 300-member unicameral parliament

According to the constitution,

parliament's indecisive vote

forces the country to hold nation-

al elections — the third within ten

within three weeks.

elect a new head of state.

At least 3,000 Vietnamese troops had joined in the fighting near the ruby-mining town of Pailin, some 300 kilometres west of Phnom Penh, a Khmer Rouge radio broadcast said.

Since late October Pailin has been the main centre inside Cam-

bodia of the radical Khmer Rouge who were ousted by Viet-

September. But there has been a stream of reports recently that it has returned to Cambodia to bolster the beleaguered government it installed in 1979.

The Khmer Rouge radio broadcast said the Vietnamese forces were supporting 1,500 government troops in an artillery and rocket offensive that was launched on Feb. 24.

To the north, the guerrilla Khmer People's National Libera-tion Front (KPNLF), said it had

area around the town of Svay Chek, retaken by government forces in a blitzkrieg offensive last

Four guerrillas were killed and five wounded in the counteroffensive in which two government ammunition trucks and a T-54 Soviet tank were destroyed, a KPNLF spokesman said

'We completely disrupted their plans to go northward (from Svay Chek) to attack Thmar Puok," the spokesman said. "We have adopted a strategy of harass-

10-vear intervention there.

After negotiations with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Soviet President Mikhail Gor-

bachev agreed in February to cut

the number of Soviet troops sta-

tioned in European countries to

195,000, about one-third of the

This week, the first of 73,500

Soviet troops began pulling out of Czechoslovakia, 22 years after

they entered the country in the

Warsaw Pact invasion that

crushed Alexander Dubcek's

"Prague Spring" reforms. Under

an agreement signed by Gor-bachev and Czechoslovak Presi-dent Vaclav Havel, all of the

Soviet forces are to be withdrawn

Soviet officials also have begun

talks on troop withdrawals from

Hungary, but no agreements

have been reached with East Ger-

many and Poland, the other

countries that are hosts to Sovit

troops in Europe.

from Czechosiovakia by July 1,

current 565,000.

and their 30 dogs reached a sign marked, "Finish," in English by the grey waters of the Antarctic Ocean. Six national flags flapped in the wind representing the countries of the participants.

Global

weather

(major world cities)

-	MIN.		MAX		
	·C	Ŧ	C	Ŧ	Weather
AMSTERDAM	03	37	09	48	Cloudy
ATHENS	09	48	18	64	Cloudy
BAHRAIN	15	59	19	66	Clear
BANGKOK	26	79	33	91	Clear
BUENOS AIRES	13	55	27	81	Clear
CAIRO	12	54	22	72	Clear
CHICAGO	-01	31	08	47	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-01	30	04	39	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-01	30	05	41	Cloudy
GENEVA	01	34	06	43	Clear
HONG KONG	12	54	14	57	Rain
ISTANBUL	06	43	11	62	Cloudy
LONDON	03	37	11	52	Стеаг
LOS ANGELES	14	57	18	64	Ran
MADRID	04	39	15	59	Clear
MECCA	16	61	33	91	Cloudy
MONTREAL	00	32	05	41	Cloudy
MOSCOW	00	32	03	37	Cloudy
NEW DEUHI	09	48	21	70	Clear
NEW YORK	. 00	32	12	54	Clear
PARIS	03	37	10	50	Cloudy
ROME	04	39	15	56	Cloudy
SYDNEY	M	M	М		M
TOKYO	06	43	09	48	Cloudy
VTENNA	60	32	05	41	Cloudy

Seoul finds new tunnel under border with North intolerable act of aggression." SEOUL (AP) — Defence Minis-Lee told a news conference.

ter Lee Sang-Hoon said Saturday that South Korean and U.S. military engineers have discovered a new tunnel dug by North Korea under the demilitarised zone (DMZ) separating the two

Lee said the tunnel is the fourth to be found under the DMZ since 1974. He said his ministry believes there are more than 20 tunnels being dug by Communist North Korea inside the four-kilometre wide DMZ, one of the most heavily fortified borders in the world.

A statement issued by the U.S.-led U.N. command said the tunnel, in a granite mountain area in eastern Korea, was 'apparently dug by North Korea to invade the South." It said the tunnel was two

metres high and two metres wide, large enough for three armed soldiers to run through side-by-Lee said the tunnel was dug 145

metres beneath the surface. "In view of the changing global situation and our sincere peace initiatives, the construction of such a tunnel into our area across the truce line is a serious violation of the armistice agreement and an

the U.S. invasion on Dec. 20.

Asked if he thought Gorbachev was becoming a dictator, Yeltsin said: "Yes. He's intolerant.... he Seoul officials claim the tunnels were to be used by North Korea to infiltrate armed guerrillas behind South Korea's first defence North Korea has denied dig-

Reform hurts readiness of East German army

EAST BERLIN (AP) — East quickly, along with political Germany's army has suffered a changes. loss of morale, readiness and a sizeable number of troops since the borders were opened and the face of the West changed from

enemy to friend. Even Defence Minister Theodor Hoffmann has conceded that reform has inflicted "many difficulties" on the East Germany army, a frontline force of the Warsaw Pact.

"We are practically without subordinates," a senior army officer told the Associated Press. The officers themselves have to walk patrols and service tanks."

The officer, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said the army has been hit hard by the desertions of thousands of soldiers through the open borders with the West.

Col. Gerd Aperz of the Defence Ministry Information Office told the AP that reports of the East German army's diminished readiness have been exaggerated in the West. But he confirmed that the wave of migrations to West Germany has taken its toll on the armed forces since the hardline Communist govern-

ment was ousted last fall. He said well over 10 per cent of National People's Army troops are deployed in factories, municipal maintenance crews and in other public works to keep crucial industries and services operating, following the departure of thousands of workers.

More than 40,000 soldiers have left army service since Jan. 26, when military reforms were announced to reduce the 200,000 troops to 110,000 by the end of the year. Aperz said.
Other Defence Ministry

sources said only about half of the departures were due to the reduction in forces.

Increasing numbers of soldiers acter," of the army, but denied have been deserting to seek their reports that the soldiers had refortunes in the West, or failing to report back from furloughs amid a noticeable decline in discipline and readiness, the sources said. Capt. Olaf Marks told the AP

that nearly half of the 2,000 sol-

diers stationed at his 23rd Rifle

regiment based in Bad Salzungen had left in recent weeks. They joined more than 400,000 East Germans who have resettled in West Germany since last summer, having abandoned hope that living standards would improve

changes.

East Germany's rapid changes are being blamed for much of the decline in what was once rated among the strongest fighting forces in Eastern Europe - and the most strategically located on the border with NATO member

West Germany.
Improved relations between the two Germanys, and reduced tensions between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, have greatly reduced East German perceptions of a military threat from the West.

One young officer told the AP that many East German soldiers can no longer conceive of circumstances that would prompt them to take up arms against West Germany.

Hoffmann, addressing a ses-

sion this week of talks among various political factions in East Berlin, said the army should not become involved in parliamentary elections on March 18 -- the first free ballot since the early 1930s in the eastern part of Germany.

Expectations of imminent unification of the two Germanys has encouraged the East German military to look for ways to cooperate with West Germany's Bundeswehr armed forces, which number about 490,000 troops.

Military strategists from both East Germany and West Germany have been discussing ways of sharing defence burdens in the event the two nations are unified. A joint East German-Soviet exercise near Berlin in early February had to be scaled back

after some East German troops refused to take part. Aperz confirmed that some soldiers objected because they "considered the exercise to be in conflict with the new reform char-

fused to work with the Soviet troops. East Germany hosts some 380,000 Soviet troops — the bulk of Moscow's 565,000 troops deployed in Eastern Europe.

The Kremlin has not yet faced significant pressure from East Germany to pull out its troops, but a sizeable withdrawal is expected to be negotiated soon at East-West talks in Vienna on conventional forces reductions.

THE Sunday Crossword

FAMILY TIES By Harold B. Counts

38 Laugh 39 Graceful tree 42 "...owed by so many to ..." (Churchill) 45 Merchandrse 46 Detecting device I USA part: abbr. 1 USA part: and 5 Fee 9 Blueprint 13 That can be accomplished 19 Ape 20 Dutch chease 21 Milan money 22 Money put in custody 23 Slowe's noval 25 "And he that rolleth —..." device 47 Louis IV par exemple 48 Sch. type

49 Driving alds 50 NBA membe 28 "And he that rolleth —..."
27 NFL member 28 Fancied 30 Shoshoneans 31 Pleasing to look at 32 Locations 33 Sex appeal 36 The sun 37 Complains 51 Project 52 Deserter 53 The world

17 Soutary 18 Meadow creatures 24 Jostle 25 Healed 26 Certain car 32 Met the day 34 Chicago airport 35 Red planel 37 Warm dry wind 35 Nonsense 40 Jeweler's need

5 Narrate once more 4 Control of the North Sea 5 Plute and Venus 10 Those born under the 7th sign 11 First sign 12 "Peter Pan" dog 13 Goddess: Lat. 14 Onethine secret group

ACROSS 1 Policemen 4 Salad fish 8 O7 book 10 Actress Valentine

11 Plate 12 "— We Trus!" 13 Source of trouble 15 Carry to

60 Gaffe
61 Corroded
62 Silver salmon
63 Tropical vine
85 City near Esser
67 Cafe cards
68 Hord
71 Actress Sommi
72 US painter
75 Speed
76 Pan of an hr
77 CA poek
78 Commedia
deli*

86 Wallet items 87 Evita 88 Generation 89 Villly 91 More tender 92 Common plants 95 Common plants 96 Large desert 100 Period of trouble 101 Exact satisfaction satisfaction 104 Russell vehicle 106 Small cactus 107 Healing plant 108 Priestly garments 109 Level 110 Goes in 117 Take care of

deli'—
79 Bakery product
80 Bustles
81 Writers of potboilers 82 Eye sores? 84 Long-winged birds 85 Hot off the press

50 Singer Julius 53 Dole 54 Actress Fleming 55 Minor prophel 58 Prisonera 58 "Cilizen —" 50 Catches 62 Pehnles 63 Endures 79 Frameworks for bridges 82 Crowded closely Logether 37 Kümer poem 84 Istand group near Sicily 87 Bane 88 Nah 90 Chop finely 91 Fastion 92 Grets — 92 Greta --93 Strainer

Diagramless 17 X 17. By Craig Schaltz

Surprise 28 DesUtute 30 "Star Trek"

65 Blow a horn 67 Something ea 68 Astgund 69 Brick carriers 70 Colony insect

47 — rickey 48 Brawf 49 Unaduiterated 57 Dollars and — 57 Engrave 58 Columbus' state 58 Resources set saide aside 61 Small part 62 Person, place or

Last Week's Cryptograms

Some folks may feel that our biggest problems now are ignorance and apathy, but I don't know and I don't care.
 Clever inventor — a born cut-up — made a harmless little gadget that blew up the whole biasted neighborhood.

Il can be wrong for as to nourish what's strong before we're certain 4. Inept reporter cannot cover conservation conversation.

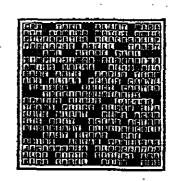
CRYPTOGRAMS

I.NMMX, TRFIBOAAOW IBO EIG ILG GBREXREF RW CMBWO, EHA EITRNNHW —By Gordon Miller

PREBUE MUSCLEDSPESIC KLOBYSHI QUOE PSAU DIEOCHISNEN QUIRLYFUNN UAUIE -By Ed Hyddleson

STRAVE BRA DUZY RSVB DUCKTAIL USE LDUZYL CS MAEHYI UL

4 HICHITA HILAOTOT KWSLA KSDSTO WL FWSLDJBL TJLNO BL KCWFBLN. -By Earl Ireland





(علدًا صد الأحل